

Forest Stewardship Plan

1031

2025 - 2030

Kaslo & District Community Forest Society
Community Forest Agreement K3C

Signature of the Person Required to Prepare this FSP:

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Chairperson, KDCFS

Date: October 1, 2025

Signature and Seal of Preparing Registered Professional Forester



Jeff Reyden, RPF #4897

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

Date: October 1, 2025

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1 Interpretation

1.1 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.

1.2 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

NDT means natural disturbance type.

Primary Forest Activities means any or all of timber harvesting, permanent road deactivation and/or road construction.

Qualified Professional means a person deemed by the agreement holder to be qualified, in terms of appropriate levels of education, training, and experience (skill sets), to conduct the activities described. 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 is a two part process composed of (1) a written communication (either mailed or sent electronically) from the agreement holder to another party, a posting on our website and Facebook page, or a newspaper advertisement which informs the reader of a planned primary forest activities and (2) a specified time frame (generally 30 days) within which the reader can request additional information, request a meeting for discussion, and/or provide written comments on the planned activity which will be considered.

Recreation Feature means interpretive sites, recreation sites, and recreation trails, as described in FRPA Section 56.

Site Plan means site specific plans and supporting documents as per FRPA S10(2). Site Plans indicate how the Results and Strategies in this FSP will be applied.

1.3 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.

1.4 Common Acronyms Used in this FSP and in forestry

- CFA:** Community Forest Agreement
- BEC:** Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification
- ECA:** Equivalent Clearcut Area
- FDU:** Forest Development Unit
- FPC:** Forest Practices Code of BC Act
- FPPR:** Forest Planning and Practices Regulation
- FRPA:** Forest and Range Practices Act
- 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
- FOR:** Ministry of Forests
- NDT:** Natural Disturbance Type
- OGMA:** Old Growth Management Area
- POD:** Point of Diversion

QRP: Qualified Registered Professional
RMA: Riparian Management Area
RMZ: Riparian Management Zone

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RMZO: Resource Management Zone Objective
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
WTRA: Wildlife Tree Retention Area
WUI: Wildland Urban Interface

2 Application of this FSP

2.1 Description of the Forest Stewardship Plan Area

This Forest Stewardship Plan applies to the 32,416 hectare area of Community Forest Agreement K3C which is held by the Kaslo & District Community Forest Society, and to each Cutting Permit and Road Permit issued to the agreement holder within K3C after the term of this Forest Stewardship Plan commences.

2.2 Term of the Forest Stewardship Plan

The term of this Forest Stewardship Plan:

1. shall be, per FRPA 6(1)(a), 5 years,
2. may end earlier than 5 years if the FSP holder chooses to replace it with another approved FSP,
3. per FRPA 6(2), may be extended by the minister pursuant to applicable Acts and Regulations, and
4. will commence on the day the Delegated Decision Maker grants approval to this FSP.

2.3 Forest Development Units

Forest Development Units identify areas in which the agreement holder may conduct primary forest activities. FDUs have common values, objectives, and practice requirements.

There is one FDU that contains the entire Kaslo Community Forest area. Table 1 lists the FDU area and Figure 1 provides an overview of the FDU.

FDU No.	FDU Name	Landscape Units FDU is Within	Gross Area of FDU (ha)

1	Kaslo	K12, K26	32,416
Total			32,416

Table 1: Forest Development Units within CFA K3C.

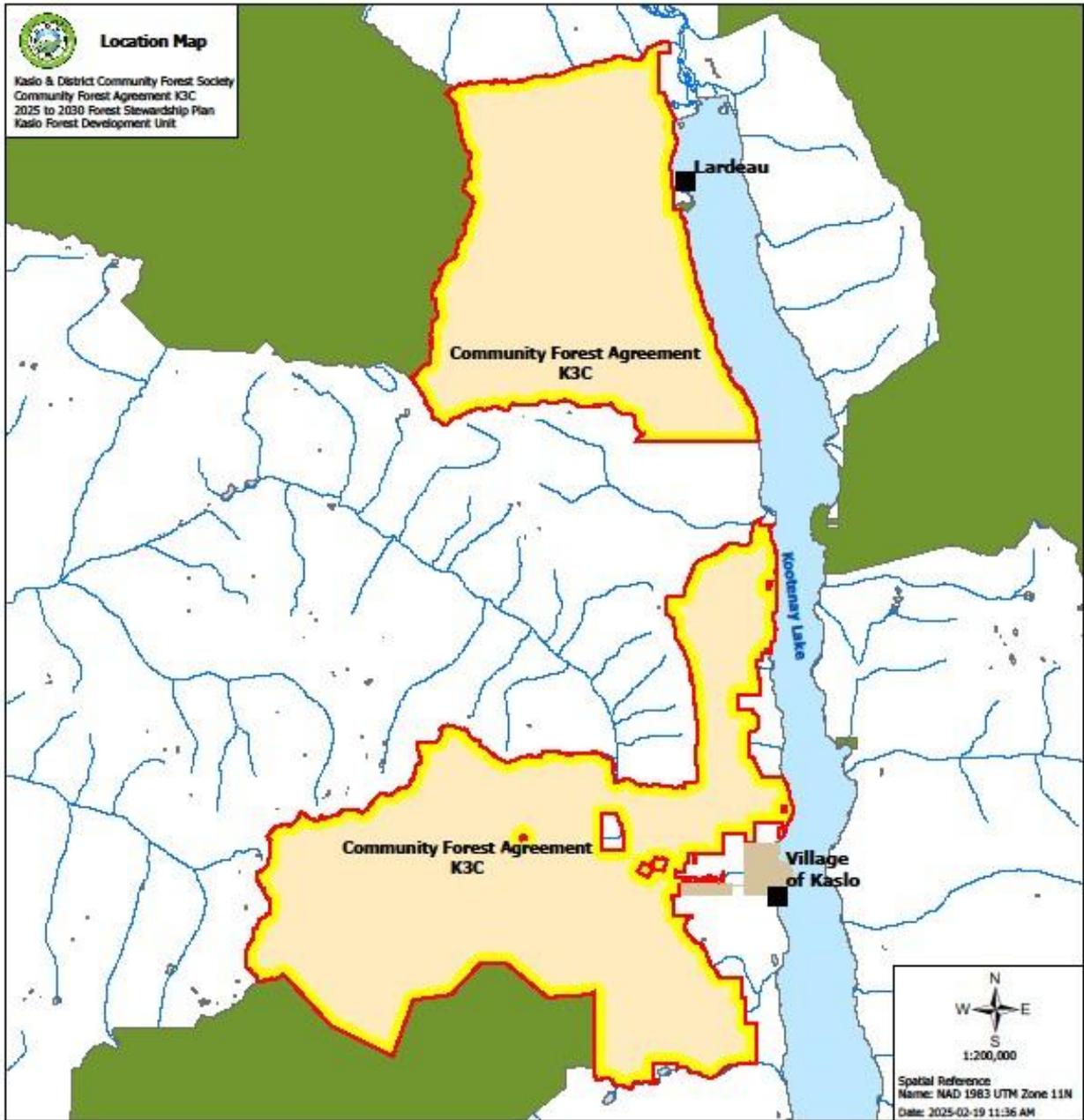


Figure 1 – FDU Map

2.4 Collaboration within Shared Management Units

Where the agreement holder is operating within a landscape unit or community watershed within which other Forest License or Agreement Holders have timber harvesting rights, to ensure that the potential cumulative impact and consistency of results and strategies are considered, the following strategy will apply.

Within shared landscape units and/or community watersheds , where timber harvesting is planned, the agreement holder will offer to exchange information on planned activities, collaborate and coordinate with each licensee or agreement holder, in relation to the following applicable values, where applicable, to ensure that the objectives set by government for managing and protecting the values in legally established land use plans or regulations, or enabled through regulation, will be achieved: i. Old and Mature Forest ii. Connectivity Corridors iii. Ungulate Winter Range iv. Water in Community Watersheds v. Visual Quality

If the holders of the multiple Forest Stewardship Plans that overlap the landscape unit or community watershed in question are unable to reach an agreement for sharing the responsibility to obtain results consistent with objectives set by government, a request will be made to the Minister to act under section 9 of the Forest and Range Practices Act.

2.5 Public Review and Comment Period

Practice Requirements:

FPPR Section 20	Providing Notice re: FSP
FPPR Section 21	Review and Comment re: FSP

The Kaslo, Lardeau and north Kootenay Lake communities were made aware that KDCFS's Forest Stewardship Plan was available for review and comment through a notice placed in the Pennywise Kootenay Lake edition on March 24, 2025. A notice was also published on our website and Facebook page. Potentially affected agreement holders were identified using the Integrated Land and Resource Registry and were sent an information sharing letter by email.

A copy of the notice, the standard information sharing letter, and the list of parties who were contacted are included in Appendix 3.

First Nations with interests in the FSP area were identified from the *Contacts for First Nation Consultation Areas Public Map Service*, and were either sent an information sharing letter by email or the FSP information sharing material was uploaded to the appropriate First Nations portal.

A copy of the standard information sharing letter and the list of First Nations who were contacted are included in Appendix 4.

The Forest Stewardship Plan was made available for public review and comment on the KDCFS website, and through meetings arranged with any stakeholders if requested for a two month period from March 24 to May 24, 2025.

2.6 Public and Stakeholder Comments [Practice](#)

[Requirement:](#)

FPPR Section 22	Responding to Review and Comment re: FSP
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Summaries of the referrals sent, comments received and other communications are found in Appendix 3. Comments specific to the Forest Stewardship Plan have been recorded and will be kept on record.

2.7 First Nations Comments [Practice](#)

[Requirement:](#)

FPPR Section 22	Responding to Review and Comment re: FSP
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A summary of comments received, description of any changes made to the plan as a result of the comments received, and a description of the efforts made to meet with First Nation groups affected by the plan to discuss the plan are contained in Appendix 4.

2.8 Sharing Operating Plans

This FSP is a landscape level plan that indicates how the agreement holder will be consistent with government objectives for managing and protecting forest and range values.

This FSP does not show operational plans for road construction, harvesting, fuel hazard reduction activities. This operational level consultation is carried out by the agreement holder as such plans are developed.

[Measures:](#) The agreement holder will share information and provide a reasonable opportunity for review and comment to First Nations, water license holders, adjacent land owners, and potentially affected stakeholders. Information sharing will include written notification with a map illustrating the location(s) of planned forest development.

At least thirty days before conducting primary forest activities, operating plans will be referred to First Nations, water license holders, adjacent landowners, and potentially affected stakeholders for a review and comment period. All written comments received by the agreement holder regarding operating plans and resource management will be addressed prior to conducting primary forest activities.

Where practicable, comments and concerns will be incorporated into operating plans. The agreement holder is willing to work with First Nations to develop an alternative solution or compromise if comments are not considered feasible.

3 Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Plan Order

The area under this Forest Stewardship Plan is within the scope of the Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Plan Order (KBHLPO) which came into effect on October 26, 2002.

The KBHLPO has been amended several times since 2002, but none of the amendments affect the area covered by this FSP.

The KBHLPO Resource Management Zone Objectives (RMZOs) have been developed specifically for this region and take precedence over objectives set by government under the Forest and Range Practices Act and the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation where they conflict.

Results and strategies to comply with the KBHLPO RMZOs are contained within this FSP.

4 Values, Objectives, and Practice Requirements

The government of British Columbia has established objectives for various forest resource values in legislation, regulations or approved higher level plans under FRPA or other acts that affect land management. To facilitate implementation of these objectives government has established practice requirements and/or provisions for Results and/or Strategies, or combinations thereof, to be defined with the FSP.

4.1 Objective set by FRPA/FPPR for Soils

Regulation: FPPR Section 5

Objective: The objective set by government for soils is to conserve the productivity and hydrologic function of soils.

Regulation: FPPR Section 12.1(1)

An agreement holder is exempt from the requirements in Section 5 of the FP to specify results or strategies for soils if the approved FSP includes an undertaking that the person will comply with sections 35 and 36 of the FPPR.

Practice Requirements: The agreement holder will comply with:

FPPR Section 35	a) Soil disturbance limits
FPPR Section 36	b) Permanent access structure limits
FPPR Section 37	Landslides
FPPR Section 38	Gully processes
FPPR Section 39	Natural surface drainage patterns
FPPR Section 40	Revegetation

4.2 Timber

4.2.1 Objectives set by KBHLPO for Timber

RMZO 7: Enhanced Resource Development Zones

Objective: To support intensive forest management for the purpose of increasing volumes of merchantable timber and to reduce industry costs while maintaining adequate environmental stewardship Enhanced Resource Development Zones – Timber emphasis is assigned as outlined on map 7.1.

Result: No mapped Enhanced Resource Development – Timber overlap the FDU in this FSP so KBHLPO RMZO 7 is not applicable to this FSP.

RMZO 10: Social and Economic Stability

Objective: To ensure that there are no unintended outcomes of the bringing into force objectives 1 to 9 on the social and economic stability of communities located within the area of the higher level plan, the Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management in consultation with communities, forest licensees and other interests will create thresholds for timber supply, costs and timber profiles that will initiate a review of these objectives.

Result: KBHLPO RMZO 10 is not applicable for the intent and purpose of this plan.

4.2.2 Objectives Set by FRPA/FPPR for Timber

Regulation: FPPR Section 6

Objectives: The objectives set by government for timber are to:

- (a) Maintain or enhance an economically valuable supply of commercial timber from British Columbia's forests,
- (b) Ensure that delivered wood costs, generally, after taking into account the effect on them of the relevant provisions of this regulation and of the Act, are competitive in relation to equivalent costs in relation to regulated primary forest activities in other jurisdictions, and
- (c) Ensure that the provisions of this regulation and of the Act that pertain to primary forest activities do not unduly constrain the ability of a holder of an agreement under the Forest Act to exercise the holder's rights under the agreement.

Result: the agreement holder 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).

4.3 Wildlife

4.3.1 Objectives Set by KBHLPO for Wildlife

RMZO 3: Caribou

Objective: To retain seasonal habitats for Mountain Caribou in order to contribute to maintaining viability of the existing subpopulations according to forest cover requirements shown in Table 3.1, within the caribou habitat areas shown on Map 3.1.

Result: KBHLPO RMZO 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. The KBHLPO RMZO 3 is not applicable to this FSP.

RMZO 5: Grizzly Bear Habitat and Connectivity Corridors

Objective: To maintain mature and/or old forests adjacent to important Grizzly bear habitat as shown on Map 5.1.

To maintain mature and/or old forests within connectivity corridors shown on Map 5.2 for purposes of regional forest ecosystem connectivity.

Result: The agreement holder will comply with KBHLPO RMZO 5. Where applicable, mature forest targets must be used to address RMZO 5 if connectivity corridors and/or Grizzly bear habitat have been identified. In addition, old forest targets should be used to address this objective unless other conservation values such as protection of rare or underrepresented old growth forests would be adversely affected. Protected areas must first be used to reduce the mature or old forest targets where available within the biogeoclimatic unit.

Objectives 1 and 2 in the KBHLPO RMZO 5 do not apply at this time as they rely on the mapping of important Grizzly bear areas, and these have not been mapped.

4.3.2 Objectives Set by FRPA/FPPR and GAR for Wildlife

Legislation and Regulations: FPPR Section 7, Section 69 and Section 70, GAR Sections 9 to 13

Objectives: Wildlife: Species at Risk, Regionally Important Wildlife, Ungulate Winter Range, Ecological Communities, General Wildlife Measures, General Ecological Community Measures The objective set by government for wildlife is to conserve sufficient wildlife habitat in terms of amount of area, distribution of areas and attributes of those areas, for:

- (a) the survival of species at risk,
- (b) the survival of regionally important wildlife, and (c) the winter survival of specified ungulate species.

Species at risk that reside in the license holder’s operating area, for which the license holder will provide special management are listed as Red or Blue by the Ministry of Environment, or as Endangered, Threatened or Special Concern (listed on Species at Risk Public Registry Schedule 1) by the committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Schedule 1 can be found at the following website:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry.html>

Objectives: Wildlife Habitat Areas

The minister responsible for the Wildlife Act by order may establish an area as a wildlife habitat area (WHA) if satisfied that special management has not otherwise been provided for under Government Actions Regulations or another enactment, and the area is necessary to meet the habitat requirements of a category of species at risk or regionally important wildlife.

As of the commencement date of this FSP, one proposed WHA for Western Screech Owl is within the FDU.

Objectives: Wildlife Habitat Feature

An authorized person who carries out a primary activity must ensure that the primary forest activity does not damage or render ineffective a wildlife habitat feature.

Objectives: Ecological Communities

The minister responsible for the Wildlife Act by order may establish one or more categories identifying ecological communities at risk if satisfied that the ecological communities are endangered, threatened or vulnerable, and identified as regionally important if satisfied that the communities:

- a) are important to the region of British Columbia,
- b) provide habitat that requires special management that is not otherwise provided for in this regulation or another enactment, and
- c) may be adversely impacted by forest practices or range practices.

As of the commencement date of this FSP, no Ecological Community has been designated within the FDU.

Preamble:

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 Wildlife Habitat Areas, Ungulate Winter Ranges and Wildlife Habitat Features and specify General Wildlife Measures for specific species, and General Ecological Community Measures for specific ecological communities. In many cases the newer GAR orders establishing WHAs and GWMs have addressed and replaced the requirements of earlier FPPR Section 7(2) notices.

The only outstanding FPPR Section 7(2) Notice that falls within the FDU of this FSP at time of approval is from December 30, 2004, *Indicators of the Amount, Distribution and Attributes of Wildlife Habitat Required for the Survival of Species at Risk in the Kootenay Lake Forest District*.

The Notice applies to the Kootenay Lake Forest District, which is now part of the Selkirk Resource District. The species at risk listed in the notice are Coeur d'Alene Salamander and Rocky Mountain Tailed Frog. There are currently no inventoried habitat sites of the noted species within the area of the CFA.

The GAR Orders in effect and applicable to the FDU of this FSP at time of approval are:

GAR U-4-001 – UWR – November 28, 2019

The locations of established UWRs are shown on the FDU map of this FSP.

This Order establishes an exemption per FPPR S 7(3) from the obligation to prepare a result or strategy in relation to the objectives set out in FPPR 7(1) for Ungulate Winter Range in the West Kootenay area.

GAR M 213 – Wildlife Habitat Features – May 29, 2018 GAR M 213 is applicable to the FDU of this FSP.

Result for Wildlife: The agreement holder 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 current or future applicable Notices under FPPR Section 7(2) and Orders under the GAR Sections 9 to 13.

Strategies for Species at Risk: There are currently no inventoried occurrences or habitat sites of the species identified in the December 20, 2004 Notice within the FDU in this FSP.

The following strategies will be followed to ensure consistency with the Notice:

1. Personnel responsible for layout of primary forest activities will receive training¹ of the attributes of SAR habitat, species ID, and habitat suitability per the FPPR 7(2) Notices relevant to the FDU of this FSP
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2. At the primary forest activity planning stage an overview assessment will be completed by a QRP which identifies the FPPR 7(2) Notices, reviews existing data of species occurrences, including the BC Species and Ecosystems Explorer, and Conservation Data Center and Wildlife Species Occurrence data sets downloaded from the BC GeoData Warehouse. This, along with assessing the ecological characteristics of the planning area and available vegetation and terrain information of the planning area, will be used to create an initial list of species listed in Notices, species at risk and/or ecosystems at risk that may occur in the planning area. A field reconnaissance of the planning area will then be carried out to assess if species or ecosystems at risk are present or likely present.
 3. If a species or ecosystem at risk is present or likely present in the planning area:
 - A Qualified Professional Biologist will provide a professional recommendation on whether (i) the primary forest activity can proceed as planned without compromising the persistence of the species or ecosystem at risk, (ii) can proceed with modifications to mitigate impacts on the species or ecosystem at risk, or (iii) should not proceed.
 - If, in the opinion of the Qualified Professional Biologist, the primary forest activity can proceed with modifications, the Qualified Professional Biologist will provide professional recommendations on measures to ensure the persistence of the species or ecosystem at risk. The recommendations will be incorporated in the Site Plan, will be communicated to forestry workers and contractors, and will be followed during primary forest activities.
 - The Qualified Professional Biologist will report any observed occurrences to the BC Conservation Data Center (CDC) within one month of observation.

Strategies for Wildlife Habitat Features: The following strategy will be followed to ensure consistency with the FPPR 70(2) and GAR Order M 213:

1. Personnel responsible for layout and carrying out of primary forest activities:
 - Will receive training² on the attributes of Wildlife Habitat Features (WHF) per the Order and per the Wildlife Habitat Features Field Guide (Kootenay Boundary Region)
 - In case a previously undocumented WHF is found during layout or operations, will notify the supervisor of the agreement holder who will bring any potential WHF encountered to the attention of the QRP referred to below
2. At the primary forest activity planning stage, a QRP will review existing spatial data for known Wildlife Habitat Features from the BC GeoData Warehouse and carry out a field reconnaissance of the planning area to assess if WHF per Order M 213 are present or likely present.
3. If WHF per Order M 213 are present or likely present in the planning area:
 - A qualified Professional Biologist will provide a professional recommendation on whether (i) the primary forest activity can proceed as planned without risk of damaging or rendering ineffective

¹ Training will either be annual (for personnel who work for the agreement holder at least once per year) or prior to commencement of work for the agreement holder (for personnel who work for the agreement

² Training will either be annual (for personnel who work for the agreement holder at least once per year) or prior to commencement of work for the agreement holder (for personnel who work for the agreement holder less than once per year).

the WHF, (ii) can proceed with modifications to ensure that WHF are not damaged or rendered ineffective, or (iii) should not proceed.

- If, in the opinion of the Qualified Professional Biologist, the primary forest activity can proceed with modifications, the Qualified Professional Biologist will provide professional recommendations on measures to prevent damage to and maintain the effectiveness of the

holder less than once per year).

WHF. The recommendations will be incorporated in the Site Plan, and will be followed during primary forest activities.

4. Any WHF identified under this strategy will be reported to government, per FPPR 86(3)(b), within one month of identification.

4.4 Riparian Areas

Regulation: FPPR Section 8

Objective: The objective set by government for water, fish, wildlife and biodiversity within riparian areas is to conserve, at the landscape level, the water quality, fish habitat, wildlife habitat and biodiversity associated with those riparian areas.

Regulation: FPPR Section 12.1(2)

An agreement holder is exempt from the requirements in Section 5 of FRPA to specify results or strategies for water, fish, wildlife and biodiversity if the approved FSP includes an undertaking that the person will comply with sections 47 to 51, 52(2) and 53 of FPPR.

Practice Requirements: The agreement holder will comply with the following:

FPPR Section 47 (1-3) (5-8)	Stream riparian classes
FPPR Section 48	Wetland riparian classes
FPPR Section 49	Lake riparian classes
FPPR Section 50	Restrictions in a riparian management area
FPPR Section 51	Restrictions in a riparian reserve zone
FPPR Section 52(2)	Restrictions in a riparian management zone
FPPR Section 53	Temperature sensitive streams. No temperature sensitive streams have been designated within the FDU of this FSP. The agreement will comply with FPPR 53 if a temperature sensitive stream is designated within the FDU.

Regulation: FPPR Section 12(32) and 12.3(1) **Objectives:**

FPPR Section 12(3)

A person who prepares a Forest Stewardship Plan must specify in it, for the objective set out in FPPR Section 8, a result or strategy that addresses retention of trees in a riparian management zone.

FPPR 12.3(1)

An agreement holder who is required to prepare a Forest Stewardship Plan is exempt from FPPR Section 47(4) if the approved plan includes an intended result or strategy for the objective for water, fish, wildlife and biodiversity set out in FPPR Section 8 in relation to the area of primary forest activity under the plan.

Strategy for Riparian Reserve Zone: The agreement holder will provide enhanced stream protection (bold in table below) while carrying out primary forest activities by establishing a Riparian Reserve Zone on stream classes S1-A, S4, S5 and S6, wetland classes W3 and W4, and lake classes L1-A, L3 and L4.

Riparian Class	Riparian Management Area Width (meters)	Riparian Reserve Zone Width (meters)	Riparian Management Zone Width (meters)
S1-A	100	50	100
S1-B	70	50	20
S2	50	30	20
S3	40	20	20
S4	30	10	20
S5	30	10	20
S6	20	10	10
W1	50	10	40
W2	30	10	20
W3	30	10	30
W4	30	10	30
W5	50	10	40
L1-A	0	10	0
L1-B	10	10	0
L2	30	10	20
L3	30	10	30
L4	30	10	30

All distances in table above are slope distances.

Exception from the Strategy: The enhanced stream protection will not be carried out where the stand has suffered > 80% mortality . This is to reduce the amount of debris deposited into the waterway from blowdown.

Strategy for Riparian Management Zones:

Within the management zones for all classes of streams, wetlands and lakes, the agreement holder will maintain 20% to 100% of the pre-harvest basal area >12.5 cm diameter at breast height.

Retain non-merchantable vegetation to the extent practicable.

When conducting primary forest activities within a riparian management zone, trees will be felled and yarded away from the stream, wetland or lake.

The spatial pattern of prescribed retention may vary throughout the RMZ and may include single trees, clumps of trees, and/or reserves or WTRAs.

When planning and designing primary forest activities in or adjacent to a Riparian Management Zone, a QRP will complete a Riparian Assessment report to support the Site Plan that will inform riparian retention levels in the prescription. The riparian assessment will consider such factors as:

- Wind firmness
- Tree species composition
- Wildlife habitat
- Fish habitat
- Windthrow potential*
- Large wood debris contribution to the stream
- Risk of erosion and/or mass wasting
- Stream channel stability
- Erosion potential
- Soils
- Visual quality
- Damage or imminent threats to the stand
- Forest health factors
- Shade requirements for streams
- Operational constraints
- Other site specific factors the QRP deems important.

*Windthrow potential will be assessed using an approach consistent with the Windthrow Field Cards (FS 712)

Strategy for Primary Forest Activities In or adjacent to Riparian Reserve Zones:

The agreement holder will comply with FPPR 51, with the addition of the following strategies.

<p>Designated Operational Stream Crossings</p>	<p>Per FPPR 51(1)(c), a stream crossing may be constructed in a riparian reserve zone. When constructing a temporary stream crossing to allow equipment engaged in a primary forest activity to cross a classified stream, the following strategies will be followed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The number of designated stream crossings will be kept to a practicable minimum. 2. The constructed width of machine trail in the designated stream crossings will be kept to a practicable minimum. 3. The approaches to designated stream crossing will be constructed as close to perpendicular to the watercourse as possible to reduce the area impacted. 4. Any overburden or waste soil resulting from construction of designated crossings will be placed in an area that is separated from the stream by a terrain feature, such that the removed material is not likely to re-enter the stream 5. Fall and yard away from the stream.
<p>Debris</p>	<p>Fall and yard away from waterways to prevent debris deposition. If slash or vegetation debris is deposited into a classifiable riparian feature or a riparian reserve zone during a primary forest activity, the debris will be removed as soon as practicable within one year of deposition. The date of deposition will be recorded in the Road Inspection Report.</p>
<p>Sediment Management</p>	<p>Prior to constructing a road or access structure within the area where surface water flow could transport sediment to a stream, a QRP will develop measures to reduce and/or manage water transport of sediment from the exposed soil associated with the new construction to adjacent streams.</p>

	<p>The following practices will be applied to reduce the potential transport of sediment into streams when constructing new roads or access structures within the area where surface water flow could transport sediment to a stream:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minimize exposed soil surfaces to minimize potential sediment yield through the Designated Operational Stream Crossing strategies listed above. 2. Seed exposed soil surfaces with Grade 1 grass seed by the next freshet. 3. Reduce potential erosion by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • placing culverts and cross drainage consistent with natural drainage patterns. • armouring at culvert outflows. • armouring ditches where the ditch line directly connects with a stream. 4. Where practicable, construct bridges higher than the road grade to prevent water on the road surface from transporting sediment onto the bridge deck and into the stream. <p>The following practices will be applied to reduce the potential transport of sediment into streams when conducting road maintenance and deactivation activities within the area where surface water flow could transport sediment to a stream:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct annual road inspections. If road requires work, record in Road Inspection Report and complete the work. 2. Seed exposed soil surfaces with Grade 1 grass seed before the next freshet. 3. Reduce potential erosion by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaning and repairing of culverts by the next freshet • Repair culvert inlets, outlets, ditch blocks and catch basins • Install additional cross drain culverts and ditch blocks where required • Install waterbars or cross ditches • Cleaning up minor slumps, washouts and rock falls • Conduct activities to minimize the potential for stream sediment delivery 4. If road is permanently deactivated, remove culverts and install cross ditches.
<p>Stability of stream banks and the shorelines of wetlands and lakes</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Riparian reserve zones will be applied to streams, wetlands and lakes to restrict machine use. 2. Retain non-merch vegetation along stream banks and shorelines. 3. Fall and yard away from streams, wetlands and lakes.

	4. If slash or vegetation debris is deposited into a classifiable riparian feature, the debris will be removed at the completion of harvesting and before the next freshet.
	5. If the stream, wetland or lake does not have a riparian reserve zone, a 5 meter machine free zone will be established.

4.5 Fish Habitat in Fisheries Sensitive Watersheds

Regulation: FPPR Section 8.1

Objective: The objective set by government for fish habitat in fisheries sensitive watersheds is to prevent the cumulative hydrological effects of primary forest activities in the fisheries sensitive watershed from resulting in a material adverse impact on the habitat of the fish species for which the fisheries sensitive watershed was established.

Result: There are no fisheries sensitive watersheds within the FDU of this FSP so the objective is not applicable.

4.6 Water in Community Watersheds

The table below lists the community watersheds within the agreement holder FDU:

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

4.6.1 Objectives Set by FRPA/FPPR for Water in Community Watersheds

Regulation: FPPR Section 8.2

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.

Practice Requirements: The agreement holder will comply with the following:

FPPR Section 59	Protecting water quality
FPPR Section 60	Licensed waterworks
FPPR Section 61	Excavated or bladed trails
FPPR Section 62	Roads in a community watershed
FPPR Section 63	Use of fertilizers
FPPR Section 84	Notice – road in a community watershed

Strategy for Community Watershed Hydrological Assessment:

Prior to a primary forest activity in a Community Watershed, a QRP will calculate the approximate equivalent clearcut area (ECA) of the watershed. If the ECA including planned forest development is expected to exceed 20%, then a watershed assessment will be completed.

For the purposes of this section, **Watershed Assessment** is a professional level analysis, carried out by a Qualified Registered Professional, which studies existing and/or future forest development related effects on hydrologic and geomorphic processes in a community watershed. Watershed Assessments will follow the joint professional guidance report Watershed Assessment and Management of Hydrologic and Geomorphic Risk in the Forest Sector.

A Watershed Assessment will include but is not limited to:

- 1) Identifying fans and delineating watersheds.
- 2) Identifying elements-at-risk in watersheds and on fans, while taking into account potential climate change impacts.
- 3) Identifying historical and current, hydrologic and geomorphic processes affecting runoff, the frequency and magnitude of peak flows, sediment delivery and sediment transport in a watershed to determine baseline conditions for future comparison.
- 4) Identifying past natural and anthropogenic disturbance.
- 5) A qualitative risk analysis that assesses the sensitivity of the watershed to changes in the magnitude and frequency of flow regime changes, increases in sediment delivery or changes to riparian function.
- 6) Estimate changes in the risk (consequence and likelihood) to elements at risk, given past development/disturbance and future forest development, and their cumulative effects on water quality, quantity and timing of flow.
- 7) Providing input to guide forest management planning at the watershed level.

The Watershed Assessment must include recommendations or establish thresholds for forest management to minimize changes in the risk to elements at risk.

Watershed Assessments will be conducted in advance of new forest developments and are intended to provide guidance for: forest planning, harvesting, road construction or permanent deactivation for up to 10 years. Watershed Assessments will be considered relevant and current up to 10 years, or until

appreciable³ change has occurred beyond the limits of recommendations or thresholds established in the original assessment.

Planning and implementation of operational activities will comply with the recommendations or thresholds of the Watershed Assessment.

Exception to the Strategy: When there is not a relevant or current Watershed Assessment; a Watershed Assessment of the entire watershed will not be required if the proposed development is less than, or equal to, 2% of the watershed area and the cumulative area harvested or disturbed since the last Watershed Assessment is less than 4% of the watershed area.

In the absence of a relevant and current Watershed Assessment, ECA will be maintained below 20% and road density will be maintained below 1 km/ km².

Strategy for Community Watershed Communications:

At least 30 days prior to CP/RP application the agreement holder will share operating plans, including the watershed assessment, with water user groups and other potentially affected stakeholder groups. All questions and concerns will be addressed prior to CP/RP application.

At least 30 days prior to commencement of primary forest activities, the agreement holder will notify water user groups and other stakeholders.

4.6.2 Objectives Set by GAR for Community Watersheds

Regulation: GAR Section 8

Objectives: The minister responsible for the Land Act by order may designate as a community watershed all or part of the drainage area that is upslope of the lowest point from which water is diverted for human consumption by a licensed waterworks, if satisfied that, to protect the water that is diverted for human consumption, the area requires special management, that is not otherwise provided for under this regulation or another enactment,

(a) to conserve the quality, quantity and timing of water flow, or

(b) to prevent cumulative hydrological effects that would have a material adverse effect on the water.

(2) The minister responsible for the Wildlife Act by order may establish for a community watershed water quality objectives respecting a matter referred to in subsection (1).

Practice Requirements: No water quality objectives have been established at date of FSP submission, so no Practice Requirements have been established under GAR.

³ Appreciable change is defined as a change to the disturbance level, either natural or unnatural, that could increase the qualitative risk to elements previously identified as at risk, and is measured by using Equivalent Clearcut Area as an indicator of cumulative hydrologic change. A Qualified Registered Professional will assess the impacts of the disturbance against the recommendations and thresholds within the assessment to determine if a new assessment is required. If a natural event or proposed development is expected to exceed the current assessment's established recommendations or thresholds for Equivalent Clearcut Area, then a new assessment will be required in advance of further primary activities.

4.7 Consumptive Use Streams

The FDU in this FSP contains numerous licensed water intakes on streams and springs.

4.7.1 Objectives Set by KBHLPO for Consumptive Use Streams

RMZO 6: Consumptive Use Streams

Objective: To reduce the impacts of forest development on streams licensed for human consumption, apply specified stream side management provisions to S5 and S6 streams that meet the specified conditions:

- a) RMZO 6 applies to the streamside management zone on specified reaches of S5 and S6 streams, which extends from the edge of the stream channel bank or the outer edge of the active floodplain, to a minimum distance of 30 meters on each side of the stream, or to the top of the inner gorge, whichever is greater.
- b) The provisions apply to:
 - i. the segment of a stream between the water intake which is licensed for human consumption and the upstream point where stream order is reduced and, if the intake is located on a firstorder stream, the entire stream length above the intake;
 - ii. a stream on where there is a water intake which is licensed for human consumption;
 - and iii. a stream on which the location of a water intake is shown on Map 6.1
- c) The provisions do not apply where it has been established that a licensed intake is not being utilized for human consumption.

Strategy for RMZO 6:

The agreement holder will follow the KBHLPO RMZO 6 requirements for specified reaches of S5 and S6 streams on which there is a water intake which is licensed for human consumption.

Prior to carrying out primary forest activities in a streamside management zone identified per RMZO 6, a QRP will develop measures to safeguard water licensed for human consumption for activities in the stream side management zone.

The measures specified above will be incorporated in the Site Plan prepared for each primary forest activity and will be followed during primary forest activities. [Strategy for Consumptive Use Stream](#)

Communications:

At least 30 days prior to CP/RP application the agreement holder will share operating plans with licensed water users. All questions and concerns will be addressed prior to CP/RP application.

At least 30 days prior to commencement of primary forest activities, the agreement holder will notify the licensed water users.

4.7.2 Objectives Set by FRPA/FPPR for Water within Riparian Areas

Regulation: FPPR Section 8

Objective: The objective set by government for water, fish, wildlife and biodiversity within riparian areas is to conserve, at the landscape level, the water quality, fish habitat, wildlife habitat and biodiversity associated with those riparian areas.

Practice Requirements: The agreement holder will comply with:

FPPR Section 59	Protecting water quality
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FPPR Section 60	Licensed waterworks
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Strategy for Domestic Use Watershed: Prior to commencement of primary forest activities in a Domestic Use Watershed the agreement holder will:

- Obtain the current information on water Point of Diversion (POD) locations and status from the BC data catalogue.
- Obtain the publicly available information on the water licence holders associated with POD(s) that may be affected by the primary forest activity.
- Contact potentially affected domestic use water agreement holders whose contact information is publicly available to inform them of the planned activities and ask for comments.
- Ensure that comments from domestic use water agreement holders are considered when planning primary forest activities.

4.8 Biodiversity

4.8.1 Objectives set by KBHLPO for Biodiversity

RMZO 1: Biodiversity Emphasis

Objective: To contribute to the conservation of biodiversity through the assignment of biodiversity emphasis to each landscape unit (LU).

Result: The agreement holder will comply with KBHLPO RMZO Objective 1. The FDU in this FSP overlaps LU K12 and LU K26.

4.9 Old and Mature Forest

4.9.1 Objectives set by KBHLPO for Old and Mature Forest

RMZO 2: Old and Mature Forest

Objective: To maintain mature and old forests to levels indicated for each Landscape Unit by the KBHLPO.

Result for RMZO 2 Old Forest: The agreement holder will comply with KBHLPO RMZO Objective 2. The requirements of Objective 2 of the KBHLPO for Old Forest are considered to be fulfilled by the mapped non-legal Old Growth Management Areas (OGMAs) within the Landscape Unit (LU) that the FDU in this FSP overlaps. These OGMAs are shown on the FDU map of this FSP.

There are two LU/BEC combinations with an OGMA to Old deficit, shown in the table below.

Landscape Unit	BEC	Deficit Area (hectares)
K12	ESSFwc1	2.7
K26	ICHdw1	0.8

Strategies for RMZO 2 Old Forest: Old Forest targets are achieved with Old Growth Management Areas, where the Old Growth Management Areas are used as a surrogate to aspatial Old Forest targets. The

entire area of the crown forest land base contained within Old Growth Management Areas is considered Old Forest irrespective of stand age.

The Old Forest located outside of Old Growth Management Areas does not contribute to the Old Forest targets, except if the Old Growth Management Areas do not meet the targets. If Old Forest targets are not met by Old Growth Management Areas then the target deficits will be met spatially with Old Forest outside of Old Growth Management Areas. The Kootenay-Boundary Higher Level Plan Order Selkirk Reporting Suite will be used for tracking Old Forest targets.

The agreement holder will utilize the most current British Columbia Geographic Warehouse OGMA layer, which is updated from time to time. WHSE_LAND_USE_PLANNING.RMP_OGMA_NONLEGAL_CURRENT_SVW.

<https://catalogue.data.gov.bc.ca/dataset/old-growth-management-areas-nonlegal-current>

No harvesting will take place in Old Growth Management Areas or Ancient Forests⁴, except:

- a. For operational or safety reasons⁵;
- b. To remove damaged timber where an Old Growth Management Area is rendered ineffective⁶ by damaging agents, including wind, fire, insects or disease⁷;
- c. To provide access where no alternative practicable option exists, or where another location

would result in greater risk to one or more Forest and Range Practices Acts values; or

- d. To carry out wildland urban interface forest fuel reduction treatments

When timber is harvested or a road is constructed in an established Old Growth Management Area under circumstances (a) through (d) above and the harvested area is > 0.2 hectares, a QRP will prepare a written rationale, indicating the reasons for harvesting the timber from the Old Growth Management Area and spatially identify replacement area from within the CFA area of at least the same size as the harvested areas. A Registered Professional Forester will document the decision within a Site Plan or Supporting Document. Replacement areas that provide equal or greater ecological value in consideration of factors outlined in the Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Plan Order Objective 2 (5), including the factors identified in footnote 'k' will be chosen. Replacement area will also take into account any small areas rendered ineffective or stranded from the main OGMA due to road construction or other tree removal. Other factors the professional will identify and consider:

⁴ Ancient Stands defined from the Land Management Handbook #25 as >400 years for NDT 1,2,4 and >250 years for NDT 3

⁵ This would be related to timber development adjacent to an Old Growth Management Area where there is no other alternative to operationally or safely harvest the timber. This applies to these situations: yarder halos where the tail holds or guy line tiebacks would infringe on an Old Growth Management Area, or the removal of danger trees. Danger tree means any tree that is a hazard to people.

⁶ Rendered ineffective means, in the opinion of a Biologist or Ecologist, damaged to a degree that the Old Growth Management Area no longer has the biological value of mature or old forest considering the factors identified in footnote 'k' of Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Plan Order Objective 2 (5). When evaluating the factors in footnote 'K' the score card found in Appendix B will be use

⁷ Insects or disease as they relate to threatening the sustainability and resiliency of the forested ecosystems within the Old Growth Management Area, where strategies and/or tactics will be implemented to minimize losses from damaging insects and diseases.

- Maintaining or improving interior forest habitat conditions, presence and current use of Old Forest attributes and stand and landscape level connectivity.
- Is the best Old Forest identified as Old Growth Management within the relevant biogeoclimatic zone subzone/variant of the landscape unit in question?
- Prioritizing protection of Ancient Forests, rare ecosystems⁸, and old stands
- Maintaining and improving landscape level connectivity
- Other important values such as wildlife habitat, rare ecosystems, recreation, First Nations cultural values and cultural values of communities within the Kootenays.

The agreement holder, as part of the information sharing package sent to First Nations, will include the written rationale, and spatially identified incursion and replacement area(s) pertaining to the Old Growth Management Area amendment.

If any amendments to Old Growth Management Areas occur, they will be tracked spatially in a GIS layer,

which will be reported to the Ministry of Forests, per the *Selkirk Resource District Protocol for Managing OGMA Consolidation Mapping*, annually upon their request.

Strategy for Priority Old Growth Deferral Areas:

Priority Old Growth Deferrals have been implemented and approved by First Nations in the FDU of this FSP. The agreement holder will comply with these Priority Old Growth Deferral Areas, following provincial government policy on old growth deferral areas, including the Kootenay Boundary Implementation Guidance and the Provincial Field Verification Guidance.

Result for RMZO 2 Mature Forest: The agreement holder will comply with HLPO RMZO Objective 2. The only BEC/LU combination with a mature target under this FSP is K12 / ICHdw1.

Strategies for RMZO 2 Mature Forest: The agreement holder will use the Higher Level Plan Objectives Reporting Suite application to monitor the area of Mature Forest in relation to the Mature + Old Forest retention targets set by KBHLPO RMZO 2 in LU K12 and K26.

Primary forest activities on CFA K3C will be constrained:

1. To ensure that harvest on CFA K3C does not result in reducing mature forest area to less than the applicable RMZO 2 targets, and
2. To allocate mature forest retention targets to areas within mapped connecting corridors, per RMZO 5(5).
3. If mature forest retention targets are not met, to develop a recruitment strategy.

If a recruitment strategy is required for Mature Forest per RMZO 2(5), the agreement holder will share the recruitment strategy, which will include a written rationale and a map of the forest stands to be recruited, with other affected license or agreement holders within the landscape unit.

The recruitment strategy will follow the KBHLPO Guidance Document section 5.b.1, and will use a stepdown recruitment strategy to determine where to retain/recruit area to address the mature deficit, in order of sequence, as follows:

⁸ A rare old forest ecosystem has an unusual composition of species, or structure of forest cover that may be threatened by human activities. It can also be composed of flora that would not normally be found in its bioclimatic domain.

1. Next oldest age class, areas both inside and outside of connectivity corridor in Parks (not OGMA, as OGMA have already been fully accounted for)
2. Next oldest age class, Inoperable, inside connectivity
3. Next oldest age class, Operable, inside connectivity
4. Next oldest age class, Inoperable, outside connectivity corridors
5. Next oldest age class, Operable, outside connectivity corridors
6. Repeat steps 1 – 6 using next oldest age class until the full target is achieved.

Plans for primary forest activities in Mature Forest will be shared with other license or agreement holders in the landscape unit per Collaboration within Shared Management Units strategy in this FSP, and will be stored on site and will be available for any Ministry of Forests staff member when and as needed.

4.10 Green-Up Height

4.10.1 Objectives Set by KBHLPO for Green-up Height

RMZO 4: Green-up

Objective: To establish the green-up heights as 2.5 meters for areas adequately stocked and 3.0 meters for areas not adequately stocked, based on the criteria in the regulations, except in: i) community watersheds;

ii) visually sensitive areas within known scenic areas as identified in objective 9;

iii) Enhanced Resource Development Zones as identified in RMZO 7, and iv)

fire maintained ecosystems as identified in RMZO 8

Result: The agreement holder will comply with KBHLPO RMZO 4.

4.11 Fire-Maintained Ecosystems

4.11.1 Objectives Set by KBHLPO for Fire-Maintained Ecosystems

RMZO 8: Fire-Maintained Ecosystems

Objective: To restore and maintain the ecological integrity of fire-maintained ecosystem Ecosystems identified on KBHLPO Map 8.1.

Result: The KBHLPO Map 8.1 has not been established, and therefore RMZO 8 is not in effect.

4.12 Wildlife and Biodiversity at the Landscape Level

4.12.1 Objectives Set by FRPA/FPPR for Wildlife and Biodiversity at the Landscape Level

Regulation: FPPR Section 9

Objective: The objective set by government for wildlife and biodiversity at the landscape level is, 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.

Result: The agreement holder will comply with FPPR 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) to comply with KBHLPO RMZO 4 in areas that RMZO 4 applies to.

Strategy for Cutblock >40 ha:

A cutblock will only exceed 40 hectares in accordance with FPPR Section 64(2)(3)(4).

Prior to harvesting a cutblock > 40 hectares, the agreement holder will complete a patch size analysis to ensure compliance with FPPR Section 64 and 65.

The patch size analysis will be conducted based on the processes outlined in the Biodiversity Guidebook. A QRP will prepare a written rationale, indicating the reasons for harvesting a cutblock > 40 hectares. A Registered Professional Forester will document the decision within a Site Plan or Supporting Document.

4.13 Wildlife and Biodiversity at the Stand Level

4.13.1 Objectives Set by FRPA/FPPR for Wildlife and Biodiversity at the Stand Level

Regulation: FPPR Section 9.1

Objective: The objective set by government for wildlife and biodiversity at the stand level is to retain wildlife trees.

Regulation: FPPR Section 12.5. An agreement holder is exempt from FPPR Section 66 – Wildlife Tree Retention and Section 67 – Restriction on Harvesting in Wildlife Tree Retention Areas if the approved FSP includes an intended results or strategy for wildlife and biodiversity at the stand level.

Results: 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 agreement holder are:

1. The total area of wildlife tree retention areas (WTRAs) that relate to the cutblocks in a cutting permit is a minimum of 7% of the total area of the cutblocks.
2. The total area of wildlife tree retention areas that relate to a cutblock is a minimum of 3.5% of the total area of the cutblock.
3. If a cutblock exceeds 40 hectares, the total area of wildlife tree retention areas is a minimum of 10% of the total area of the cutblock.
4. For the purposes of (1) and (2) above, a WTRA may relate to more than one cutblock if all of the cutblocks that relate to the WTRA collectively meet the applicable requirements of this section.
5. WTRAs will be identified during harvest planning and will be documented and mapped in the Site Plan prepared for each harvest unit.
6. Forest areas with the following attributes will be prioritized for inclusion in WTRAs:
 - Connected to surrounding unharvested forests
 - Large trees, large veteran trees, and large dead trees (compared to average stand height and diameter)
 - Large trees with internal decay, heart rot or stem cavities
 - Trees with crevices, cracks or loose bark that is suitable for wildlife
 - Trees with large mistletoe brooms
 - Trees or features with active or recent wildlife use, and/or
 - Uncommon tree or vegetation species.

7. A WTRA is long term tree retention and will remain a WTRA until the trees on the net area to be reforested of the cutblock to which the WTRA relates have developed attributes that are consistent with a mature seral condition.

Strategy for Harvesting in Wildlife Tree Retention Areas

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. To remove trees that contain insect populations that constitute a threat to forest health;
- c. To remove a safety hazard;
- d. The trees on the net area to be reforested of the cutblock to which the WTRA relates have developed attributes that are consistent with a mature seral condition,
- e. For road or access construction where no other practicable option exists, or where another option would result in a greater risk to one or more FRPA values;
- f. Where timber is damaged as a result of wind, fire or forest health factors and, in the documented opinion of a QRP, the WTRA is rendered ineffective

For the purposes of this section, ‘rendered ineffective’ means altered such that the forest in the WTRA no longer has significant ecological attributes that are valuable to wildlife.

For the purposes of this section, ecological attributes that are valuable to wildlife includes:

- Large trees, large veteran trees, and large dead trees (compared to average stand height and diameter)
- Large trees with internal decay, heart rot or stem cavities,
- Trees with crevices, cracks or loose bark that is suitable for wildlife • Trees or features with active or recent wildlife use, and/or
- Uncommon tree or vegetation species.

If, in the quantified opinion of a QRP, the ecological attributes of the WTRA that are valuable to wildlife are maintained following harvesting carried out for reasons of (a) to (d) above, a rationale for maintaining the WTRA will be provided in the Site Plan.

If, in the quantified opinion of a QRP, the ecological attributes of the WTRA that are valuable to wildlife are not maintained following harvesting carried out for reasons of (a) to (d) above, or harvesting is carried out for reason (e), and >0.2 hectares have been harvested, an area of replacement WTRA that is equivalent in size and as equivalent as practicable in ecological attributes valuable to wildlife will be identified in a location as close as practicable to the harvested WTRA. Replacement area will also take into account any small areas rendered ineffective or stranded from the main WTRA due to road construction or other tree removals.

The replacement WTRA area will be identified at the development stage by a QRP, and will be rationalized and documented in the Site Plan for the harvest unit.

4.14 Visual Quality

4.14.1 Objectives Set by KBHLPO for Visuals

RMZO 9: Visuals

Objective: To conserve the quality of views from communities, major waterways and major highways by establishing the areas identified on Map 9.1 as known scenic areas. KBHLPO RMZO 9 was replaced by a GAR Order for the Establishment of Visual Quality Objectives and Scenic Area for the Kootenay Lake Forest District on December 31, 2005.

4.14.2 Objectives Set per GAR 7(1) and 7(2) for Visual Quality

Regulations: FPPR Section 9.2, GAR Sections 7(1) and 7(2)

Objective: To preserve the Visual Quality Objectives established by the *Visual Quality Objective Order* for the Kootenay Lake Forest District on March 7, 2014.

Result: The agreement holder will comply with the *Visual Quality Objective Order* for Kootenay Lake Forest District, dated March 7, 2014, consistent with the definitions in FPPR S1.1.

Completed primary forest activities will achieve the Visual Quality Objectives (VQOs) established by the Order.

Strategy: The agreement holder will, prior to road and/or cutting permit submission, conduct a Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) as per the 2022 Visual Impact Assessment Guidebook, for planned primary forest activities located in known scenic areas. The VIA will assess the altered visual landscape from significant public viewpoints and show that the alteration is within the range for the established VQO. The results of the VIA will be incorporated into cutblock design to meet the VQO as defined in FPPR 1.1.

4.15 Cultural Heritage Resources

Regulation: FRPA Section 10, FPPR Schedule 1(4)

Objective: The objective set by government for cultural heritage resources is to conserve, or, if necessary, protect cultural heritage resources that are:

- a) the focus of a traditional use by an aboriginal people that is of continuing importance to that people, and
- b) not regulated under the Heritage Conservation Act.

Strategy for Sharing Information: When planning a primary forest activity, the agreement holder will:

1. Utilize the BC government First Nation Consultation Areas Public Map Service Consultative Areas Database to identify First Nations with interests in the potentially affected area with whom information on planned primary forest activities should be shared.
2. Share information with First Nations by:
 - providing draft plans, objectives of the plans, and maps (either mailed or sent electronically),
 - providing spatial data of planned primary forest activities by email or through upload to portal,
 - requesting in writing any information the recipients may wish to share regarding cultural heritage resources (CHR) in the planned primary forest activity area or anywhere in the CFA landbase
 - providing rationales developed for larger block sizes, or for when proposing harvesting in an OGMA or Old Growth Deferral Area, and
 - offering in writing to meet through a phone call, video conferencing, or a face to face meeting to discuss planned activities.
3. The above information sharing process will be initiated at least 30 days prior to CP/RP application.

Strategy for Responding to Information on CHR: If cultural heritage resources are brought to the agreement holder's attention when planning a primary forest activity, the agreement holder will:

1. Respond to First Nation(s) who identified the CHR.
2. Work with the First Nation(s) to revise the Site Plan for the planned primary forest activity to the extent required to conserve, mitigate impacts on, or protect the identified CHR, taking into account FPPR Section 10 and Schedule 1(4).
3. Keep a written record of First Nations comments, agreement holder responses to First Nations comments, information provided by First Nations on CHR, and changes in Site Plans to minimize potential impacts on CHR.
4. With the exception of the Province of BC, keep any or all shared information on CHR confidential.

Strategy for CHR Identified During Operations: If at any time a cultural heritage resource becomes known while implementing a primary forest activity the agreement holder will:

1. Halt operations to the extent necessary to protect or conserve the CHR.
2. Record the location, details of the resource, time and date of the discovery and other relevant information.
3. Share information on the CHR with MOF and ask for their assessment per FPPR Schedule 1(4), and share information on the CHR, the planned activity and the expected outcome of the activity with affected First Nation(s)
4. Work with the First Nation(s) who identified the CHR to revise the Site Plan for the planned primary forest activity to the extent required to conserve, mitigate impacts on, or protect the identified CHR, taking into account FPPR Section 10 and Schedule 1(4).. The measures, if any, that are committed to in the Site Plan will be communicated back to the First Nation in writing.
5. Keep a record of all steps taken with regard to the cultural heritage resource.

4.16 Archeological Resources

The Heritage Conservation Act governs the protection and conservation of archeological sites and objects in British Columbia. The agreement holder is obligated to comply with the Heritage Conservation Act, and the content of this FSP has no impact on those obligations.

Presented here for information only, the agreement holder uses the following procedures to ensure compliance with the Heritage Conservation Act with regards to archeological sites and objects:

1. Archeological Overview Assessments have been completed for the CFA landbase.
2. If primary forest activities are being considered in an area that has been identified in the Archeological Overview Assessment as having a moderate or high archaeological potential, a QRP Archaeologist will be retained to carry out a professional review and provide recommendations. The Archaeologist's recommendations will be followed in any operational activities.
3. Workers carrying out primary forest activities will receive a briefing on, and will be provided with an Archeological Chance Finds standard operating procedure. The key component of the SOP is to stop work in area immediately if a potential archeological feature is found, and obtain a QRP review.

4.17 Recreation

Legal and Regulations: FRPA Section 56, 180 and 181; FPPR Sec. 70(1); Forest Recreation Regulation Section 16

Objectives: Under FRPA, the minister may establish Crown land as an interpretive forest site, a recreation site or a recreation trail and establish objectives for these features. 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	

Result: The agreement holder will comply with FPPR S70(1) and the following:

1. Primary forest activities within or adjacent to an established recreation feature will be carried out consistent with the established objectives of the recreation site or trail.
2. Primary forest activities within or adjacent to a FRPA Sec 56 recreation feature will proceed only if authorized by a Section 16 letter from a recreation officer.
3. If additional recreation features are established within the FDU of this FSP, the agreement holder will provide the recreation tenure holder with a reasonable opportunity for review and comment.
4. If a non-motorized recreation trail is crossed by a road, the agreement holder will erect physical barriers and/or signage as necessary to control motorized access and/or advise users of trail use restrictions during active operations.

Strategy for Recreation Features: Where the agreement holder carries out primary forest activities within or adjacent to an established recreation feature the following measures will be followed, unless otherwise approved or directed by a Recreation Officer:

1. At least 30 days before primary forest activities the agreement holder will share operating plans, objectives, and maps with local recreation groups and other potentially affected user groups. This information will be shared via email with an offer to discuss over the phone, or meet in person to discuss the plans.
2. Activities will take place during periods of low recreation use, where practicable, as determined through consultation with a Recreation Officer and local user groups;
3. Established recreation feature(s) within two tree lengths of active work sites will be closed for as short a period as practicable to manage public safety. If the trail does not need to be closed for safety reasons, temporary signage will be erected to inform users of the activities;
4. Safety hazards within the primary forest activity area which could impact the established recreation feature(s) will be removed as soon as practicable and prior to reopening the recreation feature;
5. The running surface of trails within or adjacent to the primary forest activity will be cleared of any debris and re-established as soon as practicable, and no later than one month after completion of primary forest activities, or one month after snow-free conditions, or as directed by the Recreation Officer;
6. New access structures will not be constructed across a recreation trail unless there is no other practicable location;

7. Constructed roads and trails that cross a recreation feature that will be used for future harvesting will be deactivated within one year, to the extent practicable to protect the recreation feature.
8. Constructed roads and trails that cross a recreation feature that will not be used for future harvesting will be deactivated within one year and rehabbed within 2 years of the completion of primary forest activities.
9. Primary forest activities adjacent to established recreation feature(s) will minimize damage to natural understory vegetation, to the extent practicable, within 30 meters of the recreation feature.

4.18 Resource Features

Regulations: GAR Section 5, FPPR Section 70

Objective: FPPR 70(1) requires that an authorized person who carries out a primary forest activity must ensure that the primary forest activity does not damage or render ineffective a resource feature.

A "resource feature" means a resource feature identified under GAR Section 5, and may include:

- a) A surface or subsurface element of a karst system;
- b) A range development;
- c) Crown land used for research or experimental purposes;
- d) A permanent sample site used as a snow course by or on behalf of the federal or Provincial government for the purpose of measuring the water content of the snow pack on a given area;
- e) A cultural heritage resource that is the focus of a traditional use by an aboriginal people and that is not regulated by the Heritage Conservation Act;
- f) An interpretive forest site, recreation site or recreation trail
- g) A trail or other recreation facility referred to in section 57 of the Act that is authorized by the minister or under another enactment;
- h) A recreation feature that the minister considers to be of significant recreational value.

Result: the agreement holder will not damage or render ineffective a resource feature during primary forest activities. At time of submission, the only Resource Features identified within the FDU of this FSP are the Recreation Sites and Trails listed in Section 4.17 of this FSP.

Strategy for Karst: When planning a primary forest activity, the agreement holder will utilize provincial karst mapping to identify karst potential. Where karst features as defined in the Karst Management Handbook (2003) are identified, either during planning or primary forest activities, a QRP will establish an adequate buffer to protect the feature. The location and any measures to protect the feature will be recorded in the Site Plan.

If at any time a karst feature becomes known while implementing a primary forest activity, the agreement holder will halt operations to the extent necessary to protect the feature.

4.19 Special Trees Protection

Regulation: FRPA Special Tree Protection Regulation

Objective: A person responsible for a primary forest activity must ensure that, in the course of carrying out that activity, specified trees are not cut, damaged or destroyed, and supporting trees are not felled, topped or destroyed.

Result: The agreement holder will comply with the Special Tree Protection Regulation.

4.20 Invasive Plants

Objectives Set by FRPA/FPPR for Invasive Plants

Legislation and Regulations: FRPA Section 47 and FPPR Section 17

Objectives: A person carrying out a forest practice must carry out measures that are specified in the applicable operational plan to prevent the introduction or spread of prescribed species of invasive plants.

A person who prepares a forest stewardship plan must specify measures in the plan to prevent the introduction or spread of species of plants that are invasive plants under the Invasive Plants Regulation, if the introduction or spread is likely to be the result of the person's forest practices.

Measures: The agreement holder will comply with the following measures to prevent the introduction or spread of invasive alien plants:

Training: Field layout and supervisory staff will be trained annually in identification of priority invasive plants, as described in *Best Practices for Preventing the Spread of Invasive Plants during Forest Management Activities, 2013 edition*, developed by the Ministry of Forests and the Invasive Species Council of BC.

Reporting: Should invasive plants with a status of Contain, Eradicate or Prevent on the CKISS Invasive Plant Priority List or those listed in the Invasive Plants Regulation be observed outside of known infestation areas, the agreement holder will file a report using the 'Report Invasives BC' app or the CKISS website *Report an Invasive Species* page within 30 days.

Practices:

1. The agreement holder will review the Invasive Alien Plant Program (IAPP) data set during operational planning to be informed of known locations of invasive plants near planned operations.
2. Priority invasive plants present in or adjacent to proposed operating areas will be identified during the field layout. Where priority invasive plants are found, specific measures to prevent introduction or spread will be incorporated in Site Plans, including the measures listed below.
3. Equipment of all staff and contractors will be inspected and washed to remove visible invasive plant parts and seed before entering site.
4. During forestry operations and road maintenance in areas where priority invasive plants are present, infested sites will be avoided for parking and log sorting, and operations will commence in areas with low or no infestation and move towards more infested areas.
5. The agreement holder will grass seed exposed mineral soils along new or deactivated/rehabilitated roads and landings where exposed soil exceeds 0.01 hectares in a contiguous area. Seeding will be completed as soon as practicable within one year of completion of primary forest activities.
6. Seeding areas will be monitored the following year to confirm that seeding was successful. Areas will be re-seeded within one year if initial seeding was not successful.
7. Seeding will use Canada Common #1 seed.
8. The agreement holder will participate in the Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society (CKISS)

4.21 Natural Range Barriers

Regulation: FRPA Section 48. FPPR Section 18

Measures: As of the date of commencement of this FSP there are no range use agreements or grazing activity within any portion of the FDU of this FSP 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 specify measures to mitigate the effect of removing or rendering ineffective natural range barriers.

4.22 Forest Operations Map

Regulation: FPPR Section 34. FRPA Section 15 (1) & 15(3)

Practice Requirements: the agreement holder will comply with the following:

FPPR 34.1	Forest operations map (FOM) requirements
FPPR 34.2	Publication of notice re: FOM
FPPR 34.3	Review and comment re: FOM
FPPR 34.4	Report to minister re: FOM
FPPR 34.5	Period during which forest operations map may be relied on re: FOM
FPPR 34.6	Period during which record must be kept re: FOM

5 Stocking Standards

Regulations: FRPA Section 107. FPPR Section 16, 16.1, 44 and 97 **Results:**

Stocking Standards

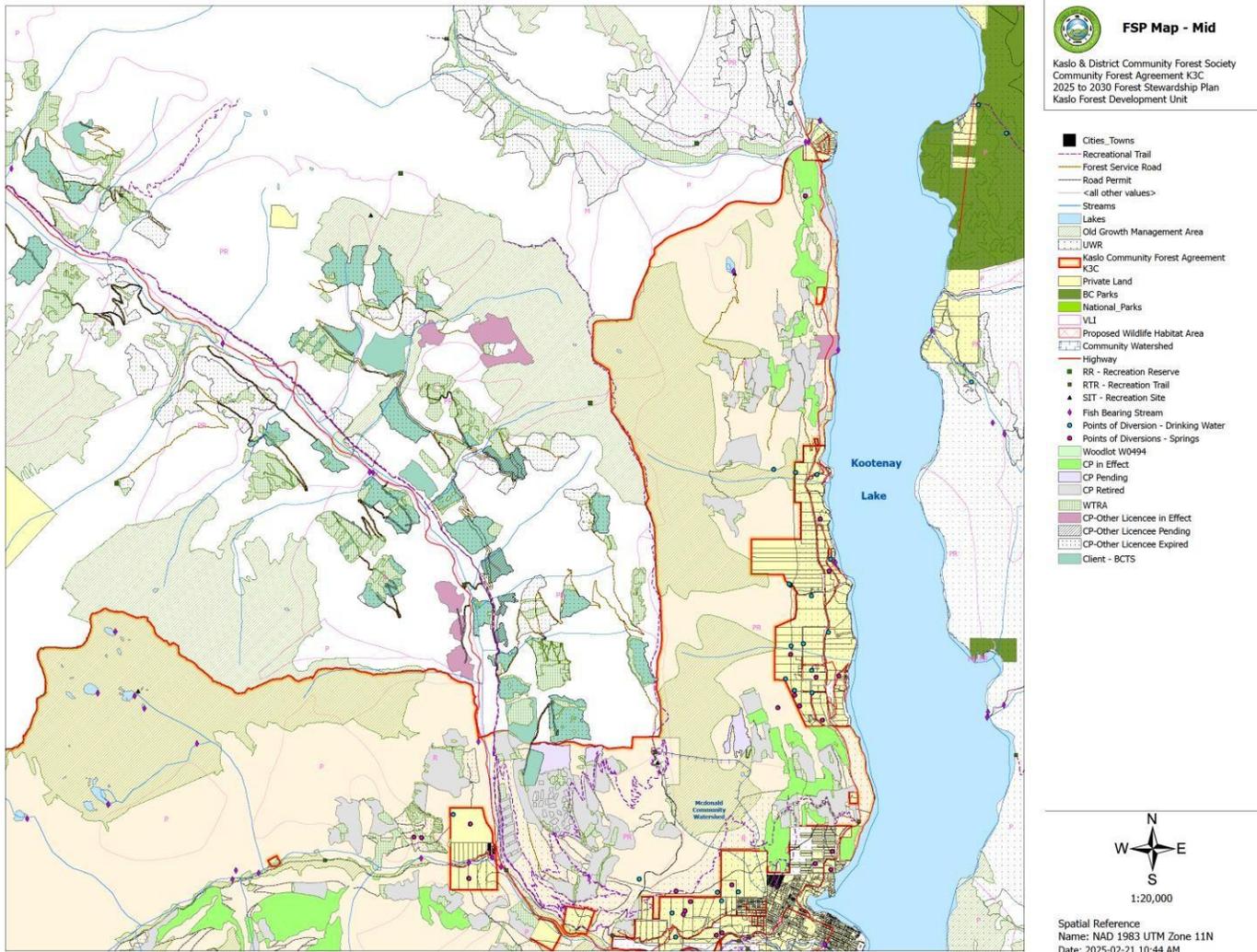
The agreement license holder will comply with the Selkirk Resource District South Columbia default stocking standards and Fire Management / Wildland Urban Interface stocking standards, as amended from time to time, that are in effect on the date of commencement of harvesting operations in any standard unit, and any Order specifying new stocking standards.

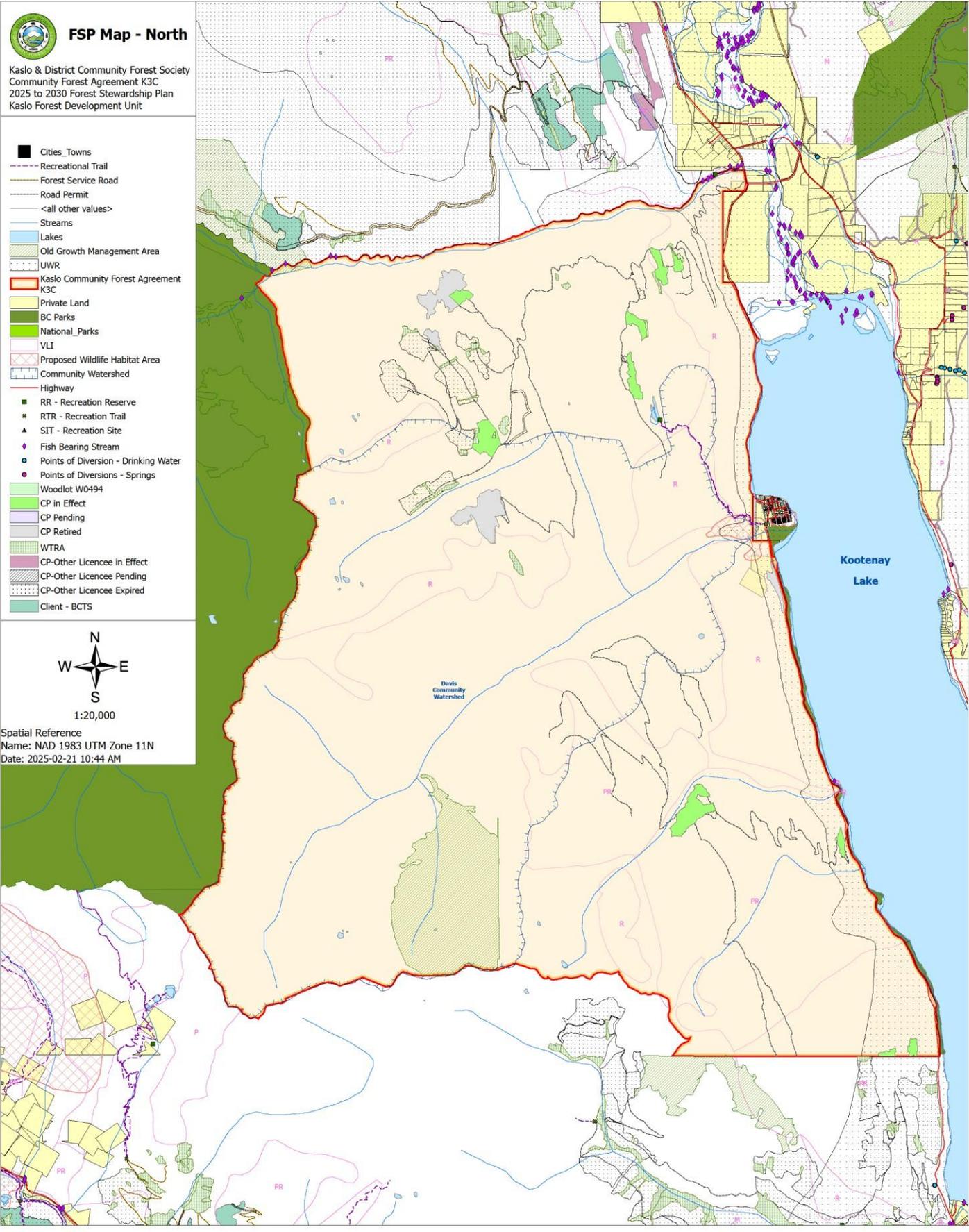
Early Free Growing Date

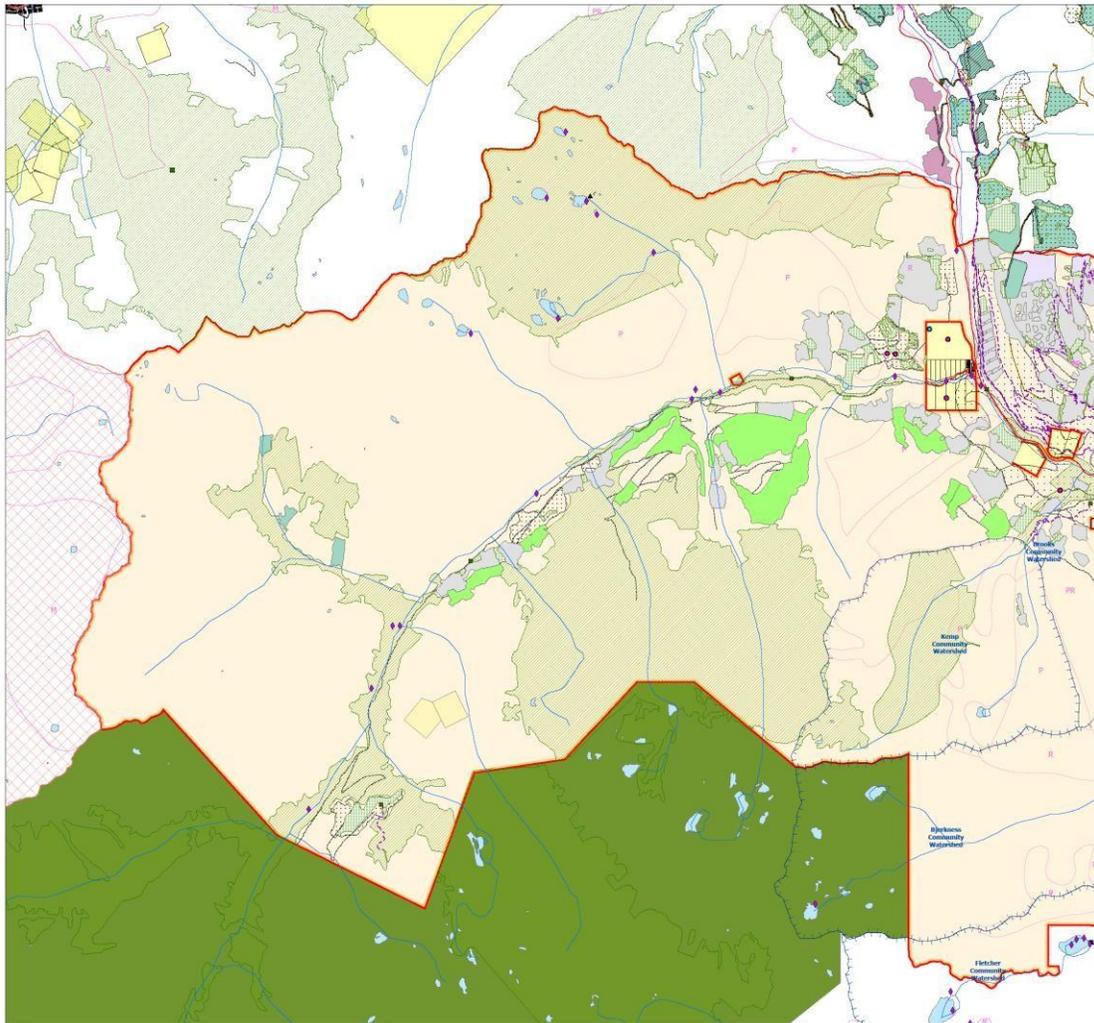
When free growing standards have been achieved the agreement holder may declare achievement of free growing per FPPR 97(5), with due consideration of FPPR 97(6), using the approved variation process in RESULTS.

Appendix 1: FSP 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 or on the website <https://kaslocommunityforest.org/resources/>





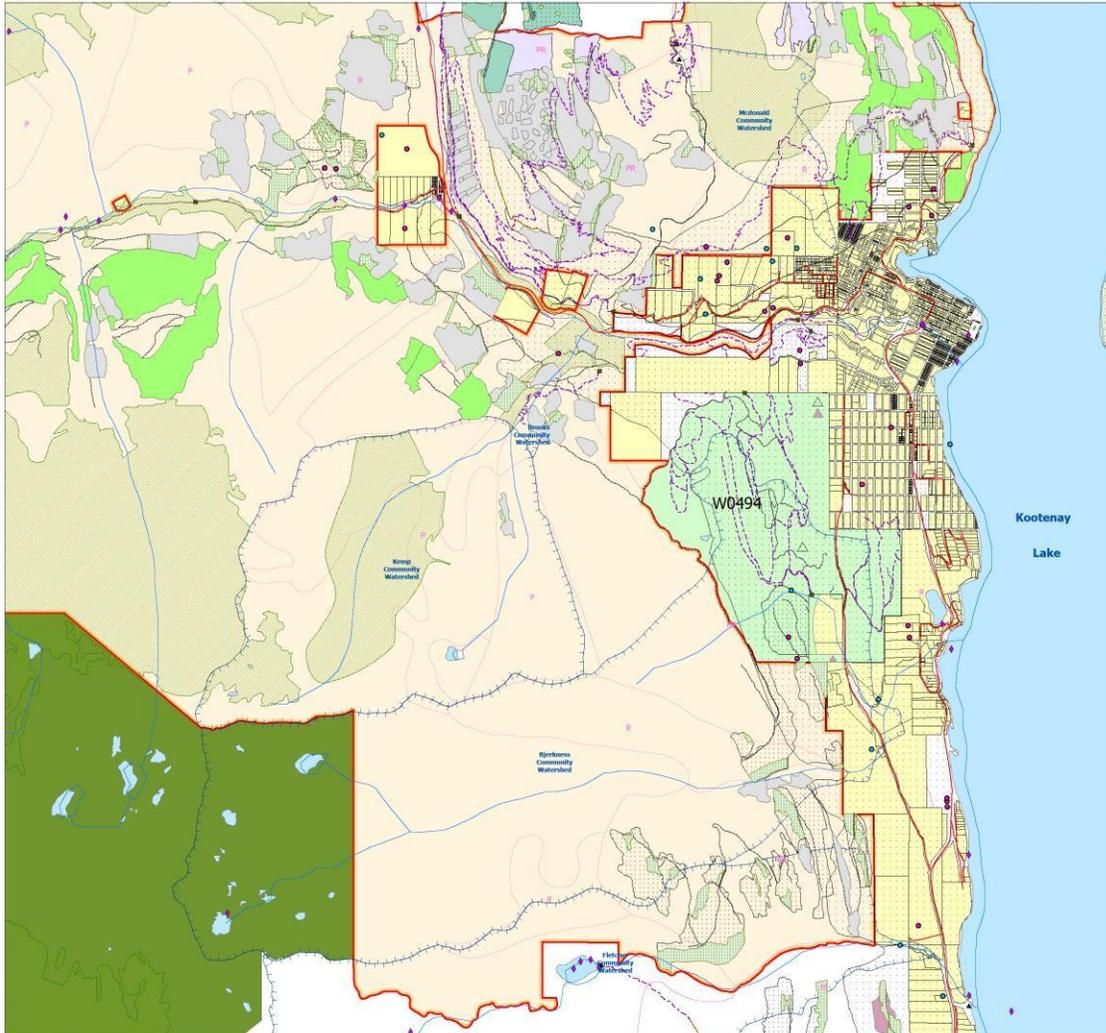


FSP Map - SouthWest
 Kaslo & District Community Forest Society
 Community Forest Agreement K3C
 2025 to 2030 Forest Stewardship Plan
 Kaslo Forest Development Unit

- Cities, Towns
- - - Recreational Trail
- Forest Service Road
- Road Permit
- <-all other values>
- Streams
- Lakes
- Old Growth Management Area
- UWR
- Kaslo Community Forest Agreement K3C
- Private Land
- BC Parks
- National Parks
- VLI
- Proposed Wildlife Habitat Area
- Community Watershed
- Highway
- RR - Recreation Reserve
- RTR - Recreation Trail
- SIT - Recreation Site
- ◆ Fish Bearing Stream
- Points of Diversion - Drinking Water
- Points of Diversion - Springs
- Woodlot W0494
- CP in Effect
- CP Pending
- CP Retired
- WTRA
- CP-Other Licence in Effect
- CP-Other Licence Pending
- CP-Other Licence Expired
- Client - BCTS



Spatial Reference
 Name: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 11N
 Date: 2025-02-21 10:51 AM



FSP Map - SouthEast
 Kaslo & District Community Forest Society
 Community Forest Agreement K3C
 2025 to 2030 Forest Stewardship Plan
 Kaslo Forest Development Unit

- Cities_Towns
- - - Recreational Trail
- Forest Service Road
- Road Permit
- <-all other values->
- Streams
- Lakes
- Old Growth Management Area
- UWR
- K3C
- Private Land
- BC Parks
- National_Parks
- VLI
- Proposed Wildlife Habitat Area
- Community Watershed
- Highway
- RR - Recreation Reserve
- RTR - Recreation Trail
- ▲ SIT - Recreation Site
- ◆ Fish Bearing Stream
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- Woodlot W0494
- CP in Effect
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- CP-Other Licence in Effect
- CP-Other Licence Pending
- CP-Other Licence Expired
- Client - BCTS



Spatial Reference
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 Date: 2025-02-21 10:48 AM

Appendix 2

Factors to Consider when Assessing Suitability of Old Forests per KBHLPO Footnote k

Footnote k Factor	Definition and Interpretation	Sources for Additional Information		
Stand age	Minimum ages of old and mature forests are listed in the KBHLPO. Stands are assessed based on the age of the dominant cohort in a stand. Field-based measurements using tree cores take precedence over forest inventory estimated ages. Ancient forests have particularly high conservation value.	KBHLPO, Biodiversity Guidebook (1995); LMH 25 describes Very Old Forests (structural stage 7b) as >400 in NDT 1,2,4 and >250 in NDT 3. These age classes will be considered ancient forests.		
Successional status	Describes the stand development status of a forest, including factors such as tree species composition and canopy complexity. Older successional stands with greater structural diversity, more large structures and greater canopy complexity have greater conservation value.	LMH 25 (2010) describes both Successional status and Structural stages		
Presence of old growth attributes	Old forest attributes differ between ecosystems. Typical old forest attributes include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> large live trees (for the BEC unit), large snags and CWD in a range of decay classes; wildlife trees; multiple canopy layers (from regen to dominants); canopy gaps; and 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 “index of old growthness” reports will be used to inform a professional rationale.		
Size of stand	Larger stands of old forests 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 where possible. Large OGMAs are intended to maximize the inclusion of old forest and should only include mature or younger forest where (1)	Guidance on expected patch size, by BEC and NDT (Holt 2000) ⁹		
		Natural Disturbance Type	Percentage of OGMAs on Landscape	Patch Size
		NDT1	40 - 100% 40% 15% 5%	> 1000 ha 250 - 1000 ha 50 - 250 ha < 50 ha
		NDT2	35% 35% 25%	> 500 ha 250 - 500 ha 50 - 250 ha

⁹ Holt. 2000. An index of Old-Growthness for the ESSFwm BEC unit in the Nelson Forest Region. Prepared for the Inter-Agency Management Committee, Min. Env., Lands and Parks.

	<p>recruitment is required or (2) conservation benefits have been assessed and old forest biodiversity values are captured equally or better than would be achieved through inclusion of different patches of old forest.</p> <p>In many landscapes, large old forest patches with interior habitat are uncommon, and the overall quanta of old forests is low.</p>	<p>NDT3 (ICH / ESSF) NDT4</p>	<p>20% 40% 30% 10%</p>	<p>> 500 ha 250 - 500 ha 50 - 250 ha < 50 ha</p>
Amount of human impact	<p>Human impacts such as historic (or recent) selective harvesting, roads, trails, linear corridors, etc. reduce the value of old forest stands.</p> <p>These impacts will be considered when identifying replacement old forest areas.</p>			
Dispersion/connectivity of the stand	<p>Landscape level connectivity allows for the flow of species, genes, and populations. Old forest retention planning should avoid fragmentation and creation of isolated patches.</p> <p>However, smaller stands may have high old forest conservation value where old forest is uncommon or where forests are very old.</p> <p>Riparian areas, low passes between mountains, and areas that support movement from low to high elevation provide increased connectivity value.</p>	<p>The Biodiversity Guidebook provides information on landscape connectivity.</p>		
Rarity of the stand	<p>The range of ecosystems in a geographic area should be included in a network of OGMA.</p> <p>Old forests in ecosystems with few remaining old forests and/or stands with uncommon structures (e.g., very old/ancient forests or very large remnant/veteran trees) are often prioritized in OGMA selection.</p>	<p>The Conservation Data Centre's Ecosystem Explorer provides lists of Ecosystems at Risk based on plant communities (e.g., site series level); these are currently being reviewed and updated with incorporation of new BEC.</p>		
Other Factors	Interpretation	Sources for Additional Information		

<p>Old Growth Technical Advisory Panel</p>	<p>The April 2020 Gorley and Merkel report and subsequent mapping and analysis work by the Old Growth Technical Advisory Panel (OGTAP) led to a proposed voluntary deferral of harvesting in a set of old forests in November 2021.</p> <p>The OGTAP identified a minimum stand age, height and quadratic mean diameter which, when used to filter the current VRI inventory data in each landscape unit and BEC subzone combination, identified a set of VRI polygons that appear to meet the target set for old</p>	<p>A NEW FUTURE FOR OLD FORESTS A Strategic Review of How British Columbia Manages for Old Forests Within its Ancient Ecosystems, Gorley and Merkel, April 2020</p> <p>Priority Deferrals An Ecological Approach, Old Growth Technical Advisory Panel – October 2021</p> <p>OG TAP Old Growth Deferral: Background and Technical Appendices</p>
	<p>growth protection in that analysis unit.</p> <p>The parameters were used to create initial maps showing areas proposed to be deferral from harvesting. However, FLNRORD stresses that the maps themselves are not the end product; the parameters are the product. The VRI data used to make the maps is known to have errors. If a stand is captured by the parameters, based on actual stand attributes and not inventory data, it should be deferred, regardless of the map.</p> <p>Guidance on field based assessment processes is being prepared.</p> <p>The provincial old growth forest initiative is a work in progress. Parameters to be considered and deferral status of any particular area may change.</p> <p>The holder will consider the current OGTAP stand age, height and quadratic mean diameter parameters when assessing any replacement old forest area.</p>	

Appendix 3

Public and Stakeholder Review and Comment

The public was informed that KDCFS's Forest Stewardship Plan was available for review and comment through an ad placed in the Pennywise paper on March 24, 2025.



**Kaslo & District Community Forest Society
Community Forest Agreement K3C
Forest Stewardship Plan
2025 to 2030**

The Kaslo & District Community Forest Society is proposing an updated Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) for Community Forest Agreement K3C.

The FSP is a landscape-level plan that establishes objectives, strategies and results for conserving and protecting timber and non-timber resource values within the CFA. The FSP has been prepared per the requirements of the Forest and Range Practices Act and the Forest Planning and Practices regulation.

The FSP does not include operational plans for specific harvesting or fuel management projects. These are addressed during ongoing operational planning.

The objective of this notice is to provide the public and interested parties with an opportunity to review and comment on the FSP. While information sharing has closing dates specified to ensure clarity in communications, the public and stakeholders are welcome to contact us anytime with questions, concerns or comments related to our activities.

The FSP is available for viewing at:
<https://kaslocommunityforest.org/resources/>

Other means to view the FSP can be arranged by request. KDCFS can be reached by phone at 250-354-9803 or by email:
manager@kaslocommunityforest.org

In order for comments to be reflected in the final submission of this FSP, please send written submissions by *May 24, 2025* to manager@kaslocommunityforest.org or to KDCFS, Box 789, Kaslo, BC, V0G 1M0.

Two comments were received from the public.

The first comment was received on May 1, 2025 and KDCFS responded on May 8, 2025.

Questions/comments below in italics, KDCFS response in blue.

My FSP focus, as you likely remember, is usually on the KDCFS commitments to meet the established VQOs in the section on Visual Quality:)

This is what is in the Draft FSP Visual Quality section:

4.14.2 Objectives Set per GAR 7(1) and 7(2) for Visual Quality

Regulations: FPPR Section 9.2, GAR Sections 7(1) and 7(2)

Objective: To preserve the Visual Quality Objectives established by the Visual Quality Objective Order for the Kootenay Lake Forest District on March 7, 2014.

Result: The agreement holder will comply with the Visual Quality Objective Order for Kootenay Lake Forest District, dated March 7, 2014, consistent with the definitions in FPPR S1.1. Completed primary forest activities will achieve the Visual Quality Objectives (VQOs) established by the Order.

Strategy: The agreement will conduct a Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) for planned primary forest activities located in known scenic areas. The VIA will assess the visual landscape from significant public viewpoints and determine potential visual impacts.

The results of the VIA will be incorporated into cutblock design

1. The following are suggestions to add 'holder', and to clarify how the VIA will be used to that show the alteration meets the established VQOs as defined in FPPR 1.1:

Strategy: The agreement holder will, prior to Road and/or Cut Permit submission, conduct a Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) as per the 2022 Visual Impact Assessment Guidebook, for planned primary forest activities located in known scenic areas. The VIA will assess the altered visual landscape from significant public viewpoints and show that the alteration is within the range for the established VQO. The results of the VIA will be incorporated into cutblock design to meet the VQO as defined in FPPR 1.1.

2. The following are some other comments:

-Visual Quality should be listed as an applicable value

2.4 Collaboration within Shared Management Units

Where the agreement holder is operating within a landscape unit or community watershed within which other Forest License or Agreement Holders have timber harvesting rights, to ensure that the potential cumulative impact and consistency of results and strategies are considered, the following strategy will apply.

Within shared landscape units and/or community watersheds, where timber harvesting is planned, the agreement holder will offer to exchange information on planned activities, collaborate and coordinate with each licensee or agreement holder, in relation to the following applicable values, where applicable, to ensure that the objectives set by government for managing and protecting the values in legally established land use plans or regulations, or enabled through regulation, will be achieved:

- i. Old and Mature Forest
- ii. Connectivity Corridors
- iii. Ungulate Winter Range
- iv. Water in Community Watersheds
- v. Visual Quality

If the holders of the multiple Forest Stewardship Plans that overlap the landscape unit or community watershed in question are unable to reach an agreement for sharing the responsibility to obtain results consistent with objectives set by government, a request will be made to the Minister to act under section 9 of the Forest and Range Practices Act.

3. Page 23 Green-up Height:

-This is unclear and I find it confusing. For visually sensitive areas, doesn't VEG (Visually Effective Greenup) apply? I couldn't find where this is included as well as how VEG is determined.

4.10 Green-Up Height

4.10.1 Objectives Set by KBHLPO for Green-up Height

RMZO 4: Green-up

Objective: To establish the green-up heights as 2.5 meters for areas adequately stocked and 3.0 meters for areas not adequately stocked, based on the criteria in the regulations, **except** in:

- i) community watersheds;
- ii) **visually sensitive areas within known scenic areas as identified in objective 9;**
- iii) Enhanced Resource Development Zones as identified in RMZO 7, and
- iv) fire maintained ecosystems as identified in RMZO 8

Result: The agreement holder will comply with KBHLPO RMZO 4

KDCFS response:

I changed the visual section wording as per your suggestion, good additions.

Regarding the green up height that is the wording from the KBHLPO, and I agree some of the wording can be confusing.

To clarify, 2.5 meters is the GU height for all areas except ones that are not adequately stocked, EXCEPT for the ones listed. So the 3 meter height would apply for the listed situations, including visually sensitive areas.

As for VEG, while it isn't specifically mentioned in FSPs, it is covered indirectly in the visual section. There is no specific height associated with it but if the cutblock hasn't achieved VEG, the VIA will still attribute it as a cutblock/opening area.

The suggestions below were incorporated into the FSP.

1. The following are suggestions to add 'holder', and to clarify how the VIA will be used to that show the alteration meets the established VQOs as defined in FPPR 1.1:

Strategy: The agreement holder will, **prior to Road and/or Cut Permit submission**, conduct a Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) **as per the 2022 Visual Impact Assessment Guidebook**, for planned primary forest activities located in known scenic areas. The VIA will assess the altered visual landscape from significant public viewpoints and **show that the alteration is within the range for the established VQO**. The results of the VIA will be incorporated into cutblock design **to meet the VQO as defined in FPPR 1.1**.

2. Visual Quality should be listed as an applicable value

2.4 Collaboration within Shared Management Units

Where the agreement holder is operating within a landscape unit or community watershed within which other Forest License or Agreement Holders have timber harvesting rights, to ensure that the potential cumulative impact and consistency of results and strategies are considered, the following strategy will apply.

Within shared landscape units and/or community watersheds, where timber harvesting is planned, the agreement holder will offer to exchange information on planned activities, collaborate and coordinate with each licensee or agreement holder, **in relation to the following applicable values**, where applicable, to ensure that the objectives set by government for managing and protecting the values in legally established land use plans or regulations, or enabled through regulation, will be achieved: i. Old and Mature Forest ii. Connectivity Corridors iii. Ungulate Winter Range iv. Water in Community Watersheds v. **Visual Quality**

If the holders of the multiple Forest Stewardship Plans that overlap the landscape unit or community watershed in question are unable to reach an agreement for sharing the responsibility to obtain results

consistent with objectives set by government, a request will be made to the Minister to act under section 9 of the Forest and Range Practices Act.

The second comment was received on May 15, 2025 and KDCFS responded May 27, 2025. Questions/comments below in italics and KDCFS response in blue. No changes to the FSP were made.

P. 3. How do the FDU maps relate to the Canadian mapping system? Are

>>> *K12 and K26 related to locations on the 82K topographic maps?* FDU's don't correlate to the Canadian mapping system as they are created for each forest licensee's tenure. We decided to have one FDU across our tenure for simplicity. The specific Landscape Units (K12 and K26) are spatially identified areas established by government that are used for long term planning of resource management activities.

>>>

>>> *P. 7. Soils, etc. Where are the terrain analyses and hazard maps that*

>>> *were done for the licence area? I couldn't find them in the FSP or on*

>>> *the website.* Terrain analyses are done on an as-needed basis if a block or road overlaps unstable or potentially unstable terrain, or other factors where it is deemed necessary to complete an assessment. The reports and maps are kept on file but we can look at adding them to the website.

>>>

>>> *P. 8. 4.2.1 RMZO 10 objectives. First sentence: "fore" objectives 1*

>>> *-9? forest or for?* Typo, should be "force"

>>>

>>> *And P. 9. Where are the maps 3.1, 5.1, 5.2? The FSP is referencing the Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Plan Order (KBHLPO). This is where the maps are. See attached.*

>>>

>>> *P. 11. Where are the QRP's reports and maps? Wildlife Habitat Features can be found using the website iMapBC. The FSP is a guidance document indicating when a QRP report is necessary, so if there is an overlap with a WHF where harvesting is proposed, a QRP will be called to provide a professional recommendation for that specific block/WHF.*

>>>

>>> *P. 13. Why and exemption if >80% mortality. It seems like you'd want*

>>> *to intensely manage/protect these areas and include your or another*

>>> *QRP's input. If the stand is dead it leaves the option to salvage these areas and replant them.*

>>>

>>> *P. 17. QRP's reports? Are they available, or yet to be done? These are done on an as-needed basis, depending on the location of the blocks and/or roads. A Hydrological Assessment was completed on Davis Creek a few years ago but we haven't done any work on the other Community Watersheds in our tenure yet.*

>>>

>>> *Pp. 18-19. Map 6.1? The map is in the KBHLPO.*

>>>

>>> *P. 20. This is confusing to me. Which download(s) that come up when*

>>> *the link is clicked apply to KCF? The Old Growth Management Areas layer that overlap KCF's tenure.*

>>>

>>> *P. 23. Are there any blocks >40ha? If so, where? And why? We have a block up Keen Creek that is >40ha. We harvested 10ha of hemlock looper killed hemlock in 2021, then the Briggs Creek fire burnt*

the rest of the hillside above, taking care of our looper problem but killing the trees in the process. KCF salvaged as much as we could in this area as it was 99% dead hemlock with a bit of cedar, fir and larch.

>> >

>> > P. 24. 7.b., f. *Are you as an RPF the QRP who makes these decisions?* It may be me as an RPF, or another QRP if deemed more appropriate for the situation. We have only entered existing WTRAs to build a road through.

>> >

>> > P. 25. VIA. *Where are the viewpoints? Where are they, and how and who decided?* The viewpoints will depend on where the primary forest activities are located. For our tenure they are located wherever the activity can be seen, usually Hwy 31 or Hwy 31A, the dump road, golf course, downtown, Argenta/Johnsons landing, and Kootenay Lake. I usually decide as I'm the most familiar with the area and know where the activities will be seen from so want to make sure we have all the viewpoints covered.

>> >

>> > P. 29. *Karst maps for the FSP area? Are there any, and who compiled them?* We haven't completed karst mapping but on the iMapcBC website it has a karst layer which shows the karst areas for the FSP area.

Stakeholders and potentially affected agreement holders were identified using the Integrated Land and Resource Registry and local knowledge, and were sent an information sharing letter by email. Where contact information was made available, a referral letter was sent to the following recipients, advising them of the proposed FSP and asking for their written comments.

- Trapline TR0430T001 (Cooper Creek)
- Trapline TR0418T008 (Schroeder / Kaslo River)
- Trapline TR0418T006 (Kaslo)
- Trapline TR0418T005 (Keen)
- RDCK Area 'D' Director
- Village of Kaslo
- Stellar Heli Skiing
- Powder Bound Club
- Kaslo Rails to Trails Society
- Kaslo Outdoor Recreation and Trails Society
- Kaslo Mountain Bike Club
- Mt Carlyle Lodge
- Empire Wilderness Area • Cooper Creek Cedar Ltd.
- BCTS – Kootenay Lake • Kalesnikoff Lumber Ltd.
- Woodlot W0438
- Woodlot W0494
- Lardeau Water Users Association
- Fletcher Creek Improvement District
- Mirror Lake Water Users' Community

Two comments were received from stakeholders or potentially affected agreement holders.

The first comment was received on June 24, 2025. The letter advised of the North Kootenay Lake Electoral Area 'D' Comprehensive Land Use Bylaw No. 2435 and its applicable policies and objectives. These include Resource Area Objectives, Resource Area Policies, Natural Environment Objectives and Natural Environment Policies.

The second comment was received on April 3, 2025.

The only comment I have is on the "Ancient" definition. We have that in our current FSP, and are taking it out of our new draft FSP. The problem we ran into was "how many ancient trees make a stand?" The TAP field verification guidance says 5 trees, but we have found that just about any stand in the Kootenays likely has 5 ancient trees, regardless of the overall age of the stand. These trees can be hard to identify if they were suppressed for a majority of their lifecycle, and we often only identified them at the cruise stage, once a lot of time and money had already been spent on development. We developed other thresholds based on old forest characteristics and processes, but these are time consuming and rely on the field techs having an advanced understanding of old forest. The ancient strategy was added to our FSP prior to the TAP deferrals coming into effect. Since then, not only do we have OGDAs, we've also developed an "at-risk ecological communities" program that targets protection of old and mature stands that are special/rare.

KDCFS responded on June 25, 2025.

Thank you for taking the time to review our FSP and your comment. Our tenure is mostly second growth from the fires since the early 1900s and we only have a few stands that are truly old growth, most being in TAP polygons, and it is these stands outside of the polygons we are aiming to protect. It is true there are old or ancient trees in most stands in the Koots and I see your point with how I have it worded that it could cause the problem you describe. We will take that into consideration.

The stakeholder referral letter stated:

Hello Kaslo & District Community Forest Society stakeholder representatives,

The Kaslo and District Community Forest Society (KDCFS) has prepared a new draft Forest Stewardship Plan. It is available for review and comment for 2 months.

The plan is posted on our website at <https://kaslocommunityforest.org/resources/>

Please understand that the FSP has been prepared per the requirements of the BC Forest and Range Practices Act and the Forest Planning and Practices regulation. It is a landscape-level plan that identifies how the holder of the plan will be consistent with government objectives for managing and protecting the forest, wildlife, water and range values through the results, strategies and measures proposed in the plan.

It is important to note that the FSP is a legalistic document and does not show actual locations of specific proposed cut blocks or roads, or of KDCFS's actual forest management approach.

If you have questions or would like to arrange a meeting, do not hesitate to contact me.

Jeff Reyden RPF

Forest Manager

Email: manager@kaslocommunityforest.org

Here is the Pennywise advertisement published on March 24, 2025:



Kaslo & District Community Forest Society
Community Forest Agreement K3C
Forest Stewardship Plan
2025 to 2030

The Kaslo & District Community Forest Society is proposing an updated Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) for Community Forest Agreement K3C.

The FSP is a landscape-level plan that establishes objectives, strategies and results for conserving and protecting timber and non-timber resource values within the CFA. The FSP has been prepared per the requirements of the Forest and Range Practices Act and the Forest Planning and Practices regulation.

The FSP does not include operational plans for specific harvesting or fuel management projects. These are addressed during ongoing operational planning.

The objective of this notice is to provide the public and interested parties with an opportunity to review and comment on the FSP. While information sharing has closing dates specified to ensure clarity in communications, the public and stakeholders are welcome to contact us anytime with questions, concerns or comments related to our activities.

The FSP is available for viewing at:
<https://kaslocommunityforest.org/resources/>

Other means to view the FSP can be arranged by request. KDCFS can be reached by phone at 250-354-9803 or by email:
manager@kaslocommunityforest.org

In order for comments to be reflected in the final submission of this FSP, please send written submissions by *May 24, 2025* to manager@kaslocommunityforest.org or to KDCFS, Box 789, Kaslo, BC, V0G 1M0.

Appendix 4

Summary of First Nations Review and Comment

First Nations to be informed of this FSP were identified using the *Contacts for First Nation Consultation Areas Public Map Service*. First Nations were informed that this Forest Stewardship Plan was available for review and comment through direct contact on March 24, 2025 using the Nations Connect portal, the Ktunaxa Connect portal, or email, depending on their stated preference. The following First Nations were contacted:

- Adams Lake Indian Band
- Ktunaxa Nation Council
- Little Shuswap Lake Band
- Lower Similkameen Indian Band
- Neskonlith Indian Band
- Okanagan Nation Alliance
- Okanagan Indian Band
- Penticton Indian Band
- Shuswap Band
- Sinixt Confederacy
- Upper Nicola Band

The information sharing letter stated:

Re: KDCFS Draft Forest Stewardship Plan 2025 - 2030

The Kaslo and District Community Forest Society (KDCFS) has prepared a new draft Forest Stewardship Plan for Community Forest Agreement K3C, from 2025 to 2030.

Please understand that the FSP has been prepared per the requirements of the BC Forest and Range Practices Act and the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation and that it is a legalistic document and does not provide straightforward indicators of KDCFS's actual forest management approach.

KDCFS manages our CFA land base on behalf of our community, with the members of our community being the shareholders. Our mandate is to responsibly manage our forests by protecting water, old growth, biodiversity, and wildlife, while increasing wildfire resiliency for our communities.

If you have questions or would like to arrange a meeting to discuss the FSP or our management approach, do not hesitate to contact me.

Jeff Reyden RPF
Forest Manager
Email: manager@kaslocommunityforest.org

Replies were received from the following First Nations:

Lower Similkameen Indian Band: A letter was received on April 14, 2025 stating: “The location of the project / activity to which the referral relates is within syilx Territory and may have impacts on inherent and constitutionally protected syilx Title and Rights, which LSIB holds as part of the syilx Nation. However, given the location of the project, we would support Okanagan Indian Band (OKIB) and Penticton Indian Band (PIB) in taking the lead in further consultation and engagement on this project. Please keep us informed of any updates or changes to the project as this may change our assessment and our view on the need for further consultation with LSIB.” KDCFS did not respond as it is a statement and not a question.

Penticton Indian Band: The Penticton Indian Band required payment to review the proposed FSP in a letter from April 9, 2025. Another letter was also received on April 9, 2025 indicating they are setting the referral timeline for an additional 40 days. In alignment with our other referrals KDCFS did not pay the invoice or respond.

Ktunaxa Nation Council: A letter was received on April 2, 2025. KDCFS considered these questions and responded on May 27, 2025. No changes to the FSP were made.
As per KNCs request the comments are not included in this document.

