

Forests For Tomorrow (FFT) Species Management and Density Targets

Objectives¹

- Species mixtures will be planted,
 - Where appropriate, and to the degree reasonable²:
 - areas will be planted with a mixture of desirable species; and
 - on sites with more than one "preferred" species, more than one preferred species (and, where practicable, all of the preferred species) will be planted.
- Species management decisions will be informed by forest-level analysis.
 - FFT species management will be informed by analyses of the long-term, forest-level impact of species choices, where these analyses are available.
- Cumulative impacts, and impacts at the landscape scale, will be considered.
 - Where appropriate, and to the degree practical, FFT will work to improve watershed and landscape composition.
 - Where young stand composition is known to deviate from natural composition³ (as a result of past management), FFT treatments will help to re-establish natural composition.
- Density management⁴ will optimize productivity, future product value, and resiliency of the forest at a stand and landscape level.

FFT Species⁵ and Density Indicators

1. Percent of area planted with more than one tree species
2. Opening area weighted mean dominant species percent in the inventory label at establishment, regeneration delay, and free growing.
3. Percent of area in a management unit planted with a single species
4. Percent of area post-treatment stand composition that is single species
5. Average opening well-spaced density at establishment, regeneration delay, and free growing.

¹ Species objectives from FFT Policy #1 – Management of tree species composition

http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/hfp/external!/publish/fft_standards_on_cms_web/policy/Policy1_FFT.pdf

² This statement also reflects the degree to which suitable seed is available.

³ Consistent with goals relevant to climate change, as well as other, biological, social and economic objectives

⁴ At establishment and through post-establishment treatments

⁵ From FFT Policy #1 – Management of tree species composition

Targets

- 80 % of the area planted within a management unit, where funded by FFT, should have 2 or more species in the silviculture label at the time of establishment
- In ecosystems with more than one preferred species, where practicable, no one species should comprise more than 70% of the composition of the inventory label of an opening area at establishment, regeneration delay, and at free growing
- Establishment and regeneration delay density management target well spaced stocking⁶ of, at least, 1200 sph (interior) and 900 sph (coast) for non-lodgepole pine dominated stands and, at least, 2000 sph for lodgepole pine dominated stands (i.e. > 50 % of the species mix is lodgepole pine) at free growing declaration.

Caveats

- Professional decisions to deviate from the objective will be recognized in those situations where it is ecologically appropriate (i.e. forest health- rusts, frost, weevil, root rot, the site being a complex of more than 1 site series, etc).

⁶ includes planted and naturals.