

SFMP CONSIDERATIONS FOR BLOCK LAYOUT

Version: June 2006

BOUNDARY LAYOUT

Block layout will consider non-timber resources as well as timber values.

- All resource features encountered during layout activities must be reported to the Canfor Planning Superintendent. Resource features include cabins, recreation features, cultural heritage features, and wildlife habitat features (such as a significant mineral lick, wallow, or active nest of bald eagle, osprey, great blue heron, or goshawk).
- Prior to conducting layout, all crews MUST read the following guidelines that form an integral part of the Block Layout Standards:
 - Best Management Practices for Eagle and Osprey Nests
 - Carnivore Ground Dens Identification Guide
- Any riparian reserves, whether required by the FPC or otherwise, will be ribboned as block boundary (e.g. streams running outside of the block will have the boundary ribbon hung no closer than the edge of the reserve). Internal streams will have the boundary completely around the reserved area.
- When locating block boundary, consideration must be given to the adjacent stands windfirmness to ensure that stands left are not susceptible to blowdown.
- Visual Impact Assessment work must be reviewed with Canfor Planning Superintendent prior to completion of operational planning in order to ensure that Canfor's ability to access timber on it's TFL are not compromised.

Block layout / design will consider biodiversity issues and these will be addressed at the pre-work conference.

- Wildlife Tree Patch (WTP) design will incorporate both small and large sized patches depending on the availability and suitability of habitat features. Retention of patches down to 0.2 ha is acceptable if windfirm (e.g. pine or aspen on dry sites). There must be some WTP's of 2 ha or larger in blocks greater than 50 ha in size and some larger WTP's (e.g. > 5 ha) in blocks greater than 100 ha in size. WTP's should contain a minimum of 2-10 mature conifers. Where present, include areas with substantial levels of existing CWD, large diameter trees (especially spruce and cottonwood) with evidence of internal decay (e.g. visible fungal conks, large broken branch stubs, broken tops, or large stem scars) or trees with broom rust or witches broom branch structures into WTP's. These will function as potential denning and resting sites and a future source of CWD.
- A description of all WTP's and a rationale for their purpose must be included in Site Plans.
- An average of at least 2 snags or 3-5m stubs or live trees > 17.5 cm must be retained on prescribed areas (post silviculture).
 - Prescribed areas are as follows:
 - Blocks with less than 10% of area in WTP's
 - Within the following site series:
 - BWBSwk1 01, 02, 03, 04
 - SBSwk2 01, 03, 04
 - ESSFwk2 01, 03, 04, 05, 06
 - ESSFmv2 04, 05
 - The following area's are exempt from this requirement even if they meet the previous requirements:
 - Salvage operations if forest health (eg MPB, root rot, etc) or worker safety is a potential concern

- Stands that average less than 17.5cm dbh
- Cable harvesting ground
- Steep slopes (>30%) or in narrow fingers of harvested blocks (< 40m wide) which restrict machine maneuverability
- Shelterwood or partial cut areas

Planned harvest area within cutblocks should be approximately the same size and area as approved in the current Forest Development Plan (FDP).

- Proposed block boundary locations in the FDP are to be altered as required to ensure operational feasibility. However, where the proposed block boundary location has been changed as a result of field layout and the change is likely to have caused a significant impact to other resources, or a significant increase in block size, or a significant road change within or accessing the block, the Canfor Planning Superintendent is to be notified in writing at the operational planning stage with a layout rationale and list of options investigated.
 - A significant increase in block size is defined as follows:
 - o An increase of 1 ha or 25%, whichever is greater, in FDP proposed blocks < 20ha.
 - o An increase of 10 ha or 25%, whichever is less, in FDP proposed blocks > 20ha.

Block layout shall adhere to all of the objectives presented in higher level and operational plans, as well as specific issues that are identified at the pre-work conference.

- Higher level plans as well as other resources must be considered and variances to those plans must be approved by the Canfor Planning Superintendent.
- According to Canfor's site series mapping, there are several rare site series within the TFL 48 occurring on the Timber Harvesting Land Base. The proponent will ensure that these plant associations are incorporated into WTP's or outside of the block where possible and avoid laying out roads through these sites if operationally feasible. If these sites cannot be avoided, a rationale must be provided to the Canfor Planning Superintendent. The rare site series are as follows:
 - BWBS wk1 05, 06, 07, 08
 - BWBS wk2 02, 03
 - ESSF mv2 06
 - ESSF mv4 05