





**TREE FARM LICENCE NO. 3
(LITTLE SLOCAN)**

**Proposed Management Plan No. 10
July 1, 2003 – June 30, 2008**

	
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Changes between Draft Management Plan and Proposed Management Plan #10

The changes that have been made to the draft management plan were as a result mainly of comments from the Ministry of Forests. The following summarizes changes made to the plan:

The following sections have had wording revisions:

- Section 1.1 Description of TFL
- Section 2.0 Planning
- Section 4.1.1 AAC and Partition Cut
- Section 4.2.8 Fish & Wildlife Habitat
- Section 4.3.5 Aboriginal People
- Section 4.5.1 Disease Management
- Section 4.6 Silviculture
- Section 9.0 Public Review

New section:

- Appendix VII: Letters received during Comment & Review period, including Slocan's responses

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Description of TFL

TFL 3 is located in the Arrow Forest District in the Nelson Forest Region near the village of Slocan, which is 40 kilometres north of Castlegar and at the south end of Slocan Lake. The TFL comprises an area of slightly more than 79,000 hectares and is located predominantly within the Interior Cedar Hemlock (ICH) and Engelmann Spruce-Subalpine Fir (ESSF) biogeoclimatic zones. These zones receive substantial precipitation resulting in some of the most productive growing sites in the BC interior.

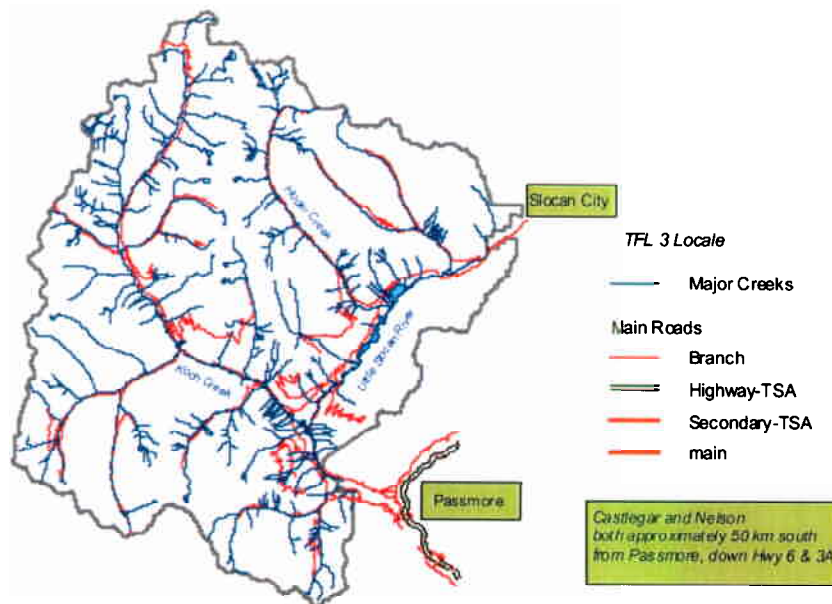


Figure 1.A: TFL 3 and Geographic Area

Due to varied topography and climate, TFL 3 consists of a wide variety of tree species including spruce, balsam, Douglas-fir, hemlock, larch, lodgepole pine, cedar and deciduous species. Of the 79,000 hectares in the TFL, only about 39,000 hectares are considered operable for harvesting timber according to the 1996 operability mapping (this work focused on terrain conditions and accessibility). This area shrinks further as a result of the landbase net down process within the timber supply analysis for area removal for considerations such as riparian and wildlife trees management.

The TFL consists of three landscape units; N514 (Perry) which has an intermediate biodiversity emphasis option, N516 (Hoder) and N517 (Koch) both which have a low biodiversity emphasis option. The landscape units and biodiversity emphasis options were formally established by the District Manager in April 1998. Management of the crown area of Perry unit is shared with the Timber Sales Program (TSP) (previously known as the

Small Business Forest Enterprise Program (SBFEP)) and two woodlots, Hoder unit is split between TFL 3 and Valhalla Provincial Park and Koch unit is entirely within TFL 3.

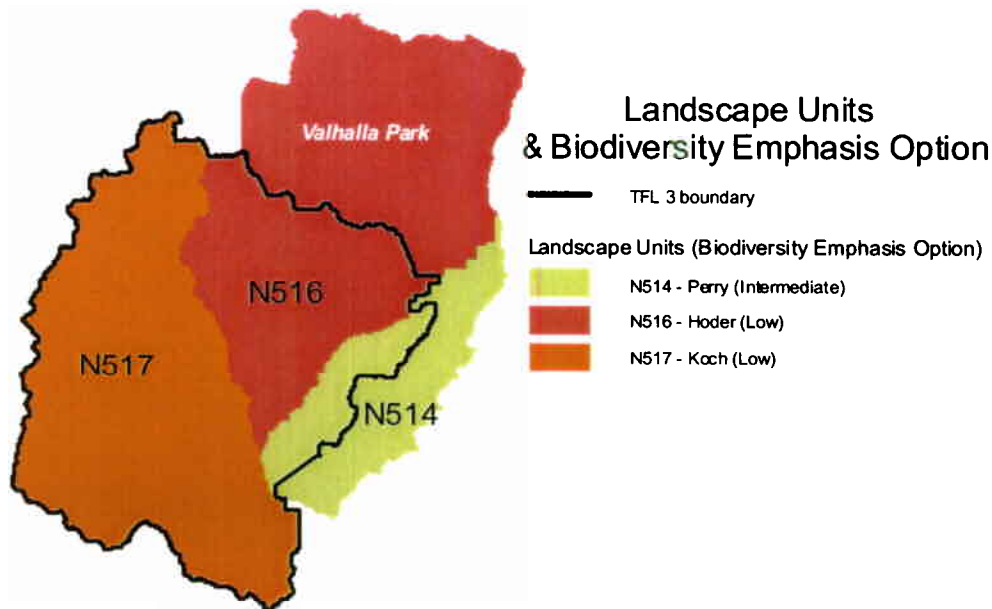


Figure 1.B: TFL 3 Landscape Units

1.2 History and Commitments

TFL 3 was first granted to Passmore Lumber Co. Ltd in 1950. In 1963, the sawmill facilities were sold to Pacific Logging Ltd. who built the new sawmill in Slocan in 1964 and then sold the mill to Triangle Forest Products Ltd. in 1970. Slocan Forest Products Ltd purchased the mill in 1978 and the Tree Farm Licence and other timber rights were reassigned shortly after. TFL 3 was established to provide a stable, long-term tenure to ensure a consistent fibre supply for the local sawmill.

In 1988, 220 hectares of the TFL area was removed and incorporated into Valhalla Provincial Park. The area removed encompasses Drinnon Lake that has high recreational values.

In MP 9's approval letter by the Chief Forester (June 23, 1998), the plan's approval was subject to addressing the following three issues:

1. *For the next determination of the allowable annual cut, information specific to the location, amount and merchantability of problem forest types on TFL 3 must be provided.*
2. *During the term of MP No. 9, mapping and management objectives for ungulate winter range must be completed. This work must be incorporated in MP No. 10 and*

the next timber supply analysis. I recommend you consult with staff of the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks in this regard.

3. *A proposed review strategy, in accordance with subparagraph 2.25 (l) of the TFL agreement must be submitted to me within 60 days of the date of this letter.*

A review strategy (point 3) was submitted and accepted in September 1998. The problem forest type issue (point 1) was reviewed and a discussion note was submitted to the Nelson Forest Region and the Arrow Forest District as part of TFL 3's 2000 Annual Report. Also part of the TFL's 2000 Annual Report was a discussion note outlining the work that was done in regards to the ungulate winter range (UWR) (point 2) and identifying the linework that would be used for forest management purposes. Regional work is also currently occurring, through committees chaired by Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection, which is further modifying UWR areas and management objectives. The regional work is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2002.

Three other issues were identified in the Implementation section of the Chief Forester's AAC Rationale for TFL 3, they included:

- Clarifying the objectives for minimum harvestable ages
- Providing more explicit modeling of the use of genetically improved stock and the associated impacts on timber supply
- Compiling more information specific to the TFL on unsalvaged losses particularly regarding the occurrence of root rots.

The first two points we were prepared to deal with during the timber supply analysis portion of the management plan however as this work has been postponed by the Chief Forester, these issues will be included in analysis work for the next management plan. Little conclusive work has been completed regarding unsalvaged losses relating to root rot. Local studies on the subject have occurred in the past and there is research that is being done provincially but no decisive results have arisen.

2.0 PLANNING

On June 1, 2001, the Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Plan Order (KBHLPO) came into effect. In October 2002, revisions to the KBHLPO were implemented. This is a legal document and is used in our operations to set objectives for a number of key issues. Prior to the proclamation of the KBHLPO, we had been working with, since 1997, the Kootenay Boundary Land Use Plan – Implementation Strategy (KBLUP-IS), which is a policy document. The KBLUP-IS is still used for guidance. It is our intent to work with government agencies in development of landscape unit and management unit area strategies.

Other planning initiatives that affect the TFL are the Perry Ridge Local Resource Use Plan, which was accepted by the District Manager on June 15, 2001. The Perry Ridge LRUP pertains to only one (N514) of the three landscape units in the TFL.

3.0 RESOURCE INVENTORIES

<i>Inventory</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Status</i>
Forest Cover	2002	Converted to VRI format (Phase I Retrofit & Phase II sampling/adjustment). Adjustment methodology and ratios accepted by MSRM in January 2002. Logging information updated to end of 2001.
Recreation	1997	Recreation Feature Inventory and Recreation Opportunity Spectrum Inventory completed.
Visual Landscape	1997 2001	Visual landscape inventory completed. Updated with district information to meet HLP.
Terrain stability	1995-1996 (D) / 1995 (B)	TSIL D majority of TFL; TSIL B for Airy/Tindale drainages. Minor holes where 1993 ESA soil info will be used as default.
Environmentally Sensitive Areas (recreation, soil, avalanche, regeneration)	1993	Accepted as part of the 1993 forest cover inventory work
Operability	1996	Revised and incorporated a new operability class ("alternate"). Accepted by Arrow Forest District in 1996.
Fisheries	1996/97 1998/99/00/01	Fish inventory and stream classification on major streams in TFL. Overview habitat assessment of Koch & Hoder Creeks in 1998, followed by in-stream and riparian restoration projects on 4 reaches in Hoder Creek & 1 reach in Koch Creek. Bioengineering remediation on 1 landslide & 2 of the restoration reaches on Hoder Creek.
Ungulate Winter Range	2000	Accepted by MWALP in Dec. 2001
Archaeological Overview Assessment (AOA)	1996	Map work completed for Arrow Forest District (1:50,000). Maps used operationally to identify areas which need a more detailed AOA review by archaeologists to determine where archaeological impact assessments are needed.
Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification (BEC)	1998	Mapping supplied by Arrow Forest District.
Goshawk Nests	2002	Nest locations as identified through operations.
Mtn Goat Winter Habitat Use	1997	Report completed which provides an indication of mountain goat winter habitat use.

Future work:

- Further VRI samples to improve on accuracy and loss factor net downs.
- Development of operational management objectives within important ungulate winter range areas unless such information is provided by the regional ungulate committee.

4.0 MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

4.1 Management and Utilization of Timber Resources

4.1.1 AAC and Partition Cut

Management Plan #9 was approved for an allowable annual cut (AAC) of 80,000 m³ per year which includes a 4000 m³ partition cut for area defined in our 1996 operable land study as “alternate”. This alternate operable zone is comprised of areas previously thought to be difficult for road development (i.e. hanging valleys) and thus was formerly considered inoperable.

The proposed allowable annual cut for MP 10 is unchanged from the previous management plan at 80,000 m³ per year, which includes 4000 m³ in partition cut for “alternate” operable area, and 5400 m³ for the TSP. The partition cut volume harvested is reported as part of the Annual Report, which also provides a yearly summary of harvesting and silviculture activities within the TFL.

The Deputy Chief Forester of the province of BC notified us on August 26, 2002 that under the authority of Section 8(3.1) of the *Forest Act* the Chief Forester has postponed the next Allowable Annual Cut determination for five years, until July 1, 2008. The Chief Forester concluded that the AAC for TFL 3 was not likely to be changed significantly with a new determination made at this time.

4.1.2 Harvest Methods

Due to the topography and logging history in TFL 3, much of the current harvesting (approximately 80 %) is done using cable yarding and hand falling, the remaining areas utilize mainly ground-based skidding and a minor component of helicopter yarding. As shown on the slope class map in Appendix I, within the operable landbase (including the ‘alternate’ operable area) 42% of the area is suitable for ground-based harvesting, 49% is steeper and is considered for cable yarding, while 9% of the area is sufficiently steep that from an operational view may be suitable for cable yarding or may be deemed better suited for retention and management of other values. As was noted earlier, logging history has played an important role in where we are logging today. While 42% of the area may be suitable for ground-based harvesting, less than 20% of today’s and the near future’s logging will come from ground-based harvest methods. Our main harvest method will continue to be cable yarding.

Within the alternate operable landbase, while this area may be difficult to access we will see a variety of harvest methods used. In some areas, it is hoped that this area will be reclassified and become part of the “normal” operable landbase as operations prove that road access is environmentally acceptable.

4.1.3 Timber Sales Program (formerly Small Business Forest Enterprise Program)

In 1988, Section 32(2) of Bill 28 established the Small Business Forest Enterprise Program (SBFEP) by reducing the AAC within all Timber Supply Areas (TSAs) and TFLs by 5%. This volume was apportioned to the program. Since the commencement of this program, the SBFEP has existed as a specific area within the existing TFL boundary. At the time of the inception, TFL 3's AAC was 108 000 m³, which resulted in a SBFEP apportionment of 5400 m³. Under the terms of the SBFEP establishment, the apportionment will remain at this volume.

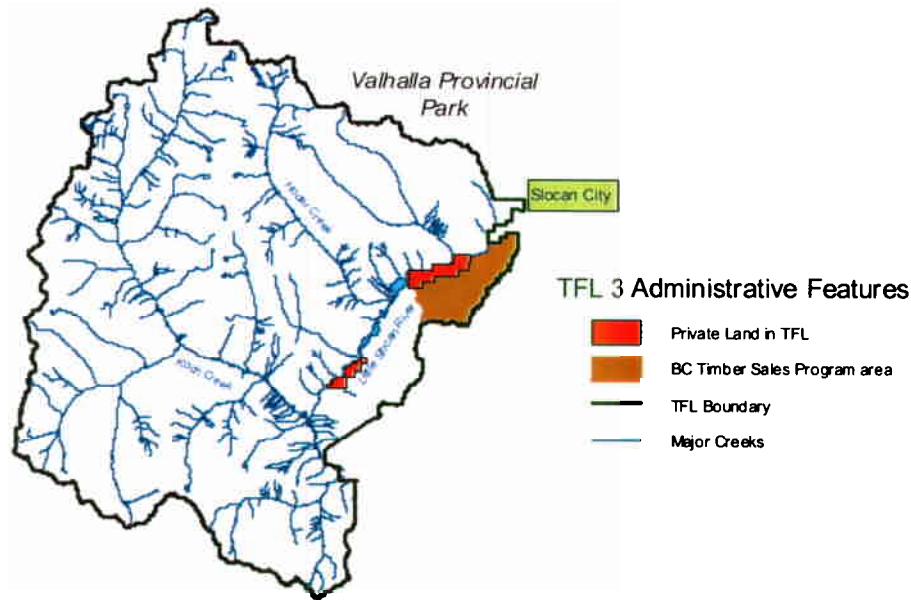


Figure 4.A: Private Land and Timber Sales Program operating area within TFL 3

4.2 Protection and Conservation of Non-timber Values and Resources

4.2.1 Visual Quality

SFP acknowledges the importance of managing the visual quality with respect to our forestry operations. In 1997, SFP completed a visual landscape inventory; it was then incorporated into the Arrow Forest District's compiled visual inventory and has subsequently been revised by the district to meet with standards of the HLP. The revised inventory is being used in our current operational planning and will continue to be used until better information is known.

Managing visuals does not mean that harvesting is not visible, its intention is to incorporate natural features and land forms into block design and to manage to acceptable disturbance targets. The inventory identifies visual polygons within the higher level plan scenic area and provides a Recommended Visual Quality Class (RVQC) for each unit (see Scenic Area map in Appendix I). The RVQCs range from preservation to maximum modification (within TFL 3, the classes are retention, partial retention and modification). Simple definitions/directions of the TFL's RVQC's are; for retention visual quality class

harvesting is intended to be not visually evident, within *partial retention* activities are visible but remain visually subordinate and within *modification* harvesting activities are visually dominant but have natural appearing characteristics. Many attributes are included in determining a visual quality class of a planning unit; a few of these are biophysical factors, viewing distance, viewing duration, vegetation pattern diversity and slope.

4.2.2 *Biological Diversity*

Biological diversity or richness has become a highly significant forest value to be considered in forest management. Biological richness can be managed at several different levels. At the landscape level, the main components are seral stage distribution, including old seral stand retention, temporal and spatial distribution of cut and leave areas (patch size distribution) and landscape connectivity. At the stand level, the components are stand structure and species composition, which we focus on through wildlife tree management and coarse woody debris.

At the regional level, the Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Plan Order and existing protected areas (Valhalla Park, Kokanee Glacier Park, Goat Range Park) provide a core of protected areas and connectivity corridors.

Seral stage targets are provided in the KBHLPO while the Biodiversity Guidebook provides suggested patch-size targets based on natural disturbance types (NDTs). TFL 3 contains four of the five NDTs found in the province:

- NDT 1 – ecosystem with rare stand initiating events
- NDT 2 – ecosystem with infrequent stand initiating events
- NDT 3 – ecosystem with frequent stand initiating events
- NDT 5 – alpine tundra and subalpine parkland

In the Arrow Forest District, natural disturbance types match with specific biogeoclimatic ecosystem classification (BEC) subzones and variants:

- NDT 1 – Engelmann Spruce-Subalpine Fir wet-cool variants: ESSFwc1 & ESSFwc4
- NDT 2 – Interior Cedar Hemlock moist warm variant: ICHmw2
- NDT 3 – Interior Cedar Hemlock dry warm variant: ICHdw
- NDT 5 - Engelmann Spruce-Subalpine Fir parkland variant: ESSFwcp4 and Alpine Tundra (AT)

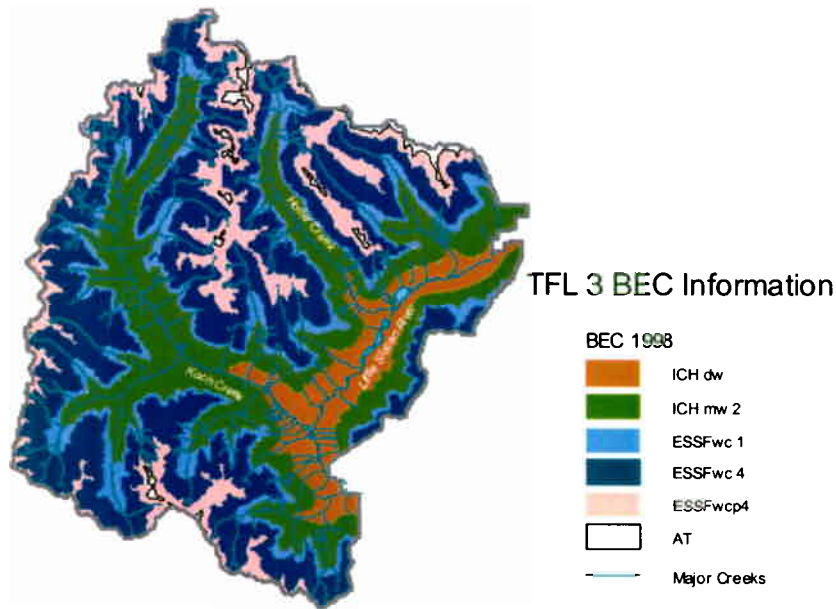


Figure 4.B: TFL 3 Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification Information

To date, the patch size analyses that have been completed have focused on early seral stands as these are the areas most simply managed through harvesting. Some work has been done on managing multiple seral stages for patch size but we have yet done this through operations. From the Biodiversity Guidebook, the patch size targets are as follows for all landscape units:

NDTs 1 & 2

- 0 – 40 ha patches 30 – 40 % of forest area within landscape unit
- 40 – 80 ha patches 30 – 40 % of forest area within landscape unit
- 80 – 250 ha patches 20 – 40 % of forest area within landscape unit

NDT 3

- 0 – 40 ha patches 20 – 30 % of forest area within landscape unit
- 40 – 80 ha patches 25 – 40 % of forest area within landscape unit
- 80 – 250 ha patches 30 – 50 % of forest area within landscape unit

Current early patch size analysis information for the TFL is as follows:

LU N516 Hoder (based on forest cover and FDP information as of December 2001)

Patch Size	Current patch size distribution % - NDT1	Current patch size distribution % - NDT2	Current patch size distribution % - NDT3
0 – 40 ha	12 %	17 %	20 %
41 – 80 ha	25 %	29 %	27 %
81+ ha	63 %	54 %	53 %

LU N517 Koch (based on forest cover and FDP information as of December 2001)

Patch Size	Current patch size distribution % - NDT1	Current patch size distribution % - NDT2	Current patch size distribution % - NDT3
0 – 40 ha	35 %	46 %	28 %
41 – 80 ha	31 %	18 %	19 %
81+ ha	34 %	36 %	53 %

LU N514 Perry (based on forest cover and FDP information as of August 2000)

Patch Size	Current patch size distribution % - NDT1	Current patch size distribution % - NDT2	Current patch size distribution % - NDT3
0 – 40 ha	100 %	41 %	33 %
41 – 80 ha	0 %	0 %	6 %
81+ ha	0 %	59 %	61 %

The patch size targets are one of the management objectives that are utilized. In some instances the targets will not be achievable because of other management issues.

4.2.3 Soils

Soil resources provide a vital function to forest ecosystems including support, moisture supply, nutrient supply, and habitat. All forest operations create some form of soil disturbance but it is the management of this disturbance through appropriate harvesting methods and harvest timing that must be considered. Other soil attributes that must be considered when planning forest operations includes soil stability, organic matter and nutrient content, temperature, and physical features.

In order to protect the soil resources of the TFL, SFP have undertaken detailed terrain mapping (TSIL B) in the Airy/Tindale drainage and TSIL D terrain mapping for the much of the remaining TFL area. Due to the extreme terrain conditions exhibited in the TFL, this terrain classification will identify areas of unstable terrain and will help to minimize soil degradation during forest operational planning.

All forest operations are planned to keep site disturbances within government specified limits, through management of harvest systems, road and trail construction and site rehabilitation.

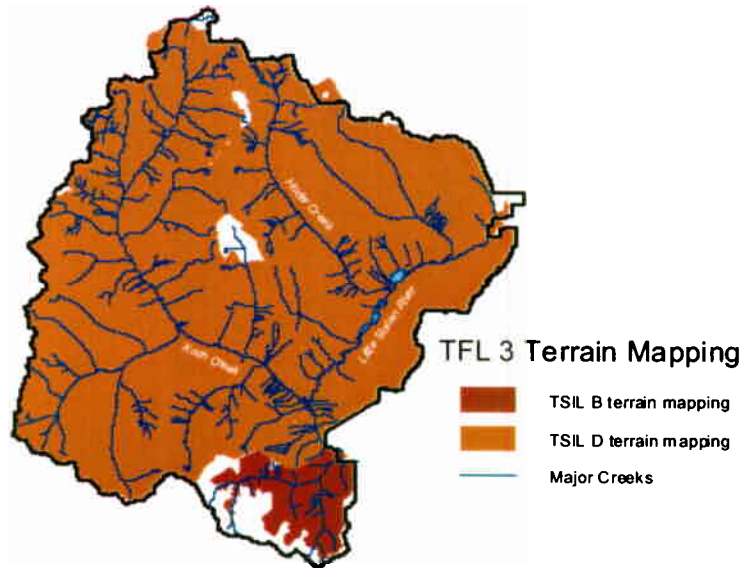


Figure 4.C: TFL 3 Terrain Mapping

4.2.4 Water

Water is an important resource in TFL 3 as there are portions of six domestic watersheds within the TFL and the main rivers and streams are considered important for fisheries. Our management objective is to ensure that the water resources are not compromised, and that water quality together with environmental values are maintained. This objective is met through conscious planning at both the watershed and block-level planning. Operationally, we establish a reserve zone within the streamside management zone for the purpose of providing bank stability and stream shading on those creeks licensed for consumptive use. At the forest development plan level, we calculate existing and proposed equivalent clearcut area (ECA) values for the domestic watershed in which development is proposed. With the exception of Tindale sub-basin in the Airy drainage, all the domestic watersheds where development had been planned as part of the last forest development plan had proposed ECAs well below 20%. Tindale sub-basin was at 22% ECA, and no new cutblocks were being proposed at that time.

Over the past 5 years, different ECA 'red flags' or warnings have been suggested. In 1997, the KBLUP-IS suggested a maximum ECA of 30% in watersheds unless a more detailed review (report card) of the drainage had been done. In 2000, the Arrow Forest District used a graduated ECA 'red flag' depending on the watershed class for the areas within the timber supply area (the non-TFL areas within the district). These thresholds were based on the information of the day from local and provincial experts and included a reduced hydrologic green-up recover height of 6 metres. This seems a reasonable approach and we adopt such a tactic with the understanding that expert advice from a hydrologist following field review of a specific watershed would over-ride these general thresholds. These 'red flag' ECAs are 15% for Class 1 watersheds, 20% for Class 2 watersheds and 25% for class 3 watersheds.

The Airy Creek drainage, which supplies drinking and irrigation water to several households and farms, is particularly important as it is the largest domestic watershed in the TFL and has a long history of harvesting and road development. Detailed terrain mapping (TSIL B) was completed for the Airy/Tindale drainages in 1995 and was followed by a hydrologic assessment in 1996. In 2001, SFP worked with the Passmore water users (Airy Creek) to upgrade their system through improvements to their holding pond, replacement of water lines and the installation of a new intake system.

Many of the problems affecting water resources are related to old roads that met past standards of the day but do not meet our current standards. SFP initiated, through the support of both Forest Renewal and company funding, a proactive watershed restoration program, which has included detailed prescriptions and deactivation activities. Extensive work has been done in Airy/Tindale, Russell, Milton, Dago and Koch Creek drainages. At this point in time no further restoration work is planned, however we will continue to deactivate operational roads as necessary to protect the water resource. If funding is available, a review of the success of the work done to date from a hydrologic perspective would be interesting.

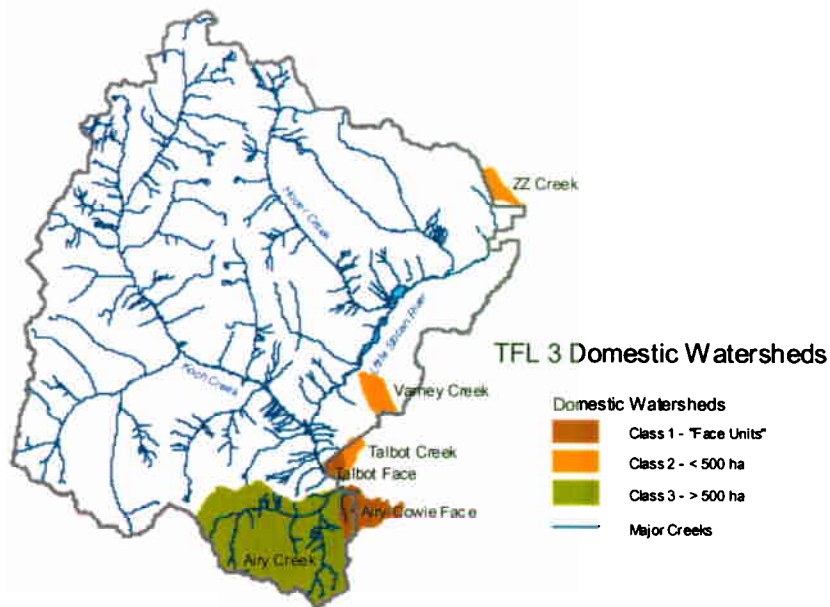


Figure 4.D: TFL 3 Domestic Watersheds

4.2.5 Recreation

The Arrow District is a well-known and desired recreation area with its lakes and rivers, rugged terrain, warm summers and cold, snowy winters. Typical recreational activities include hiking, biking, skiing, canoeing, camping, snow mobiling, fishing and berry picking, to name a few. Within TFL 3, there are several areas of high recreation use, including a canoe launch and a recently upgraded recreation site on Upper Little Slocan Lake, a recreation site on Grizzly Creek, a high elevation commercial ski lodge near

McKean Lake, trails to popular rock climbing areas, and access to Valhalla Park including Drinnon Lake campsite and Mulvey Basin.

To have a better understanding of recreation issues within the TFL, Slocan completed (1997) a recreation inventory to identify sites of recreational importance that are likely to be sensitive to resource development. Slocan works to incorporate recreational needs into the planning activities within TFL 3. At times, the desires of the recreationalists conflict with needs for environmental management specifically around the deactivation of roads. We attempt to balance the maintenance of suitable access to areas and the environment. We have also tried to enhance recreational opportunities in important areas, examples of this is shown through the work done at the Upper Little Slocan Lake (Beaver Lake) recreation site, the development of a parking area at the Drinnon Lake trail head and the maintenance of the Hoder Mainline, specifically post winter grading.

4.2.6 Cultural Heritage Resources

Cultural heritage resources consist of objects, sites, or areas of traditional aboriginal and non-aboriginal ways that are of historical, cultural or archaeological significance. Cultural heritage resources can include aboriginal rights, aboriginal archaeological sites and non-aboriginal historical or archaeological sites.

Non-aboriginal Historical Sites

Within the TFL, the historical sites include a number of old sawmills, logging camps and old homesteads. The old homesteads are mainly located on the private lots, which are within but not part of the TFL, the exception to this is the homestead located near Beaver Lake. Following is a list of old sawmills and logging camps, most of these sites are in various levels of disrepair and have not been evaluated for their cultural or historical value:

Camp 4	¼ km – Airy Creek
Camp 5	4½ km – South Fork Airy Creek
Camp 6	5½ km – Airy Creek
Camp 7	Boulder Creek
Camp 8	Off Camp 5 road (first use of steel spars in the TFL in the late 1950's)
Camp 10	Sawdust pile at Cougar Creek
Camp 11	Vicinity of Wilton Creek (no mill)
Camp 12	Across Brodie Creek
Camp 14	Murray Creek (no mill)

Aboriginal Archaeological Values

An Archaeological Overview Assessment (AOA) was completed in 1996 by the Arrow Forest District that encompassed TFL 3. The AOA identified and assessed the archaeological site capability and the potential for further archaeological assessments. Slocan uses this information as a basis for identifying areas that require a more thorough review by the archaeological team. This review consists of a detailed AOA (block/area specific) at the 1:20,000 scale and then if needed a field visit and an archaeological impact assessment (AIA). The AIAs identify and evaluate the archaeological resources, assess the

potential impacts on those resources, and suggest alternative operations to minimize impacts.

The most significant aboriginal finding within the TFL were three sites that were identified during archaeological impact assessments along the shores of Upper and Lower Little Slokan Lakes prior to the upgrading of the Beaver Lake recreation site. The sites are believed to be pre-contact sites used on a temporary basis for food preparation, resting and/or overnight camping. None of the sites were in or near to the proposed recreation area.

SFP's management objective for both aboriginal and non-aboriginal cultural values is to propose development which will protect and conserve such identified resources to the best of our ability. This is done through following a standardized archaeological process that includes the overview and field stages of the assessments and then incorporating assessment recommendations into our plans to avoid resource impacts.

4.2.7 Range

At this time, there are no range management activities within the TFL.

4.2.8 Fish and Wildlife Habitat

A diversity of wildlife species are present within TFL 3. Deer and elk are found throughout much of the operable TFL area, with specific winter range area identified in the Little Slokan River valley. Black bears are found throughout the TFL, with Grizzly bears being more common in the higher or more remote areas of the TFL. Mountain goats are found at higher elevations, generally in the southern portions of the TFL, in the rockier terrain.

Where other species of interest, such as red and blue listed species not specifically discussed in this section, are identified during operational planning we will utilize local government staff expertise and provincial guidelines such as the Identified Wildlife Management Strategy to develop appropriate management activities.

With respect to general fish and wildlife management, numerous documents and guidelines (i.e. KBHLPO, KBLUP-IS, Forest Practices Code Guidebooks) have been used along with discussions with agency staff in developing strategies and management practices.

Wildlife Management

In 2000, a four-year study regarding ungulate (mainly deer) winter range was completed which resulted in a revised management area for TFL 3. At the operational level, we work with local agencies and specialists in the development of cutblocks that will meet winter range objectives. Such objectives include managing forest cover to provide for snow interception, connectivity and forage areas.

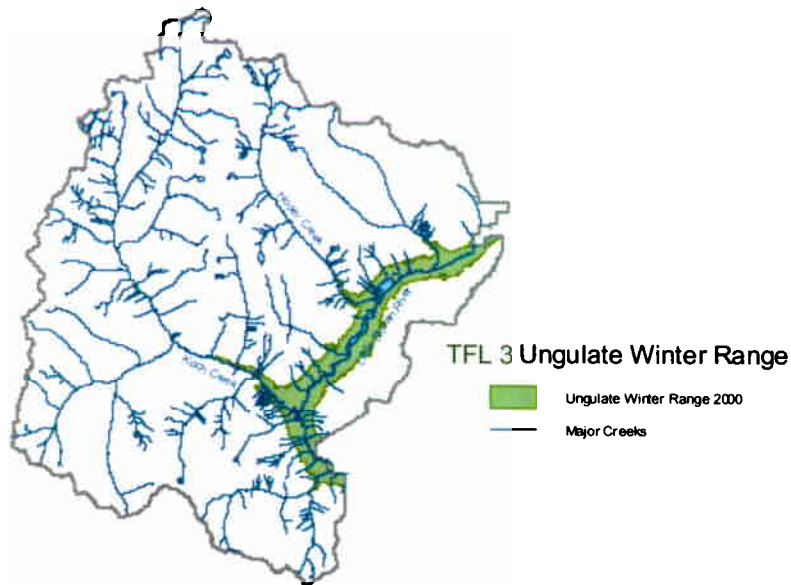


Figure 4.E: TFL 3 Ungulate Winter Range

At present, the current direction for managing grizzly bears and their habitat is from the KBLUP-IS with further guidance to come as result of information needs identified in the KBHLPO. The key measures that we work with are:

- Access management through road deactivation. Attempting to minimize the potential for human-bear contact.
- Avalanche management areas. In avalanche areas, that are utilized by grizzly bears, an area of restricted harvest may be placed on either or both sides of the avalanche track to ensure that suitable resting habitat is preserved.
- Timber edges are known to be important habitat areas for bears as they provide a resting and hiding area close to a forage site (cutblock). Where operationally feasible, we work to increase block edge by creating an undulating or varied block shape.
- Be cognoscente of important herbaceous areas which bears may be using important feeding areas and avoid disturbance of these areas by road construction.
- During cutblock reforestation in higher elevations mainly (i.e. ESSF), consider amount area that contains herbaceous and berry species prior to harvesting. If suitable as potential or existing grizzly habitat, plant in clumps and avoid broadcast brush control.

Within the TFL, two goshawk nests have been identified and located. Buffers were established around the nests for harvesting purposes. The Koch Face nest identified in 1996 is being monitored for use. The Identified Wildlife Management Strategy provides direction in regards to management of goshawk nesting areas.

A 1997 report on winter habitat use of Mountain goats utilized an aerial survey of track and animal counts throughout the TFL in the winter of 1996. This study found that the goat and track locations were closely associated with escape terrain (escape terrain is defined as areas of > 100% slope on open terrain). The report acknowledges that it is unknown whether suitable winter habitat is limiting in the Selkirk Mountains but recommends that harvest plans should maintain a diversity of habitats, including mature and old forests, centered on identified cliff systems. Further studies have not occurred to our knowledge.

In general, at the operational level specific wildlife values are assessed and management strategies developed at the landscape and stand level. Species managed in this way are chiefly deer and grizzly bear.

Fisheries Management

Rainbow trout is the predominant fish species found within the creeks of TFL 3, principally within the main stems and some of the tributaries of Hoder and Koch creeks and Little Slokan River. A resident population of Bull trout is also present in Hoder Creek and parts of Little Slokan River but not in Koch Creek. Other species that are found intermittently (mainly in Hoder and Little Slokan) are Eastern Brook trout, Long Nosed dace and Kokanee.

Forty-one percent of the creeks within the operable landbase have been classified (S1 to S6) either through by a field based inventory process or as part of the forest development plan process (photo interpretation). Of the non-classified streams, 89% of them have a stream gradient greater than 20% (potential fish bearing limit).

Operationally, we confirm stream classification (channel width and fish presence, if needed) of the existing stream class information and then follow the guidelines for riparian reserve and management zone widths from the Riparian Guidebook.

Additionally during the term of MP 9, SFP has been proactive, with the assistance of Forest Renewal funding, in stream rehabilitation works on both Koch and Hoder Creeks. These projects consisted of stream habitat work (placement of large woody debris) and rehabilitation of area of continually sloughing. At this time, no further work is planned. Stream habitat projects will be monitored but we will allow natural processes to function.

4.3 Integration of Harvesting Activities with Non-timber uses

SFP maintains contact with licensed resource users, first nations groups and others who have shown interest in harvesting and road building activities within the TFL through a referral process for the forest development plans.

4.3.1 Trappers

Within the TFL, there are five trapping licences. Several trapper cabins are located within the TFL, mainly located near South Bannock Creek, South Fork Airy Creek, Grizzly Creek and the Vallican back road. No specific large-scale issue has been raised from trappers. Interest is usually block specific (i.e. location and type of leave trees) and we attempt to address concerns during cutblock planning.

4.3.2 *Miners*

There are seven mineral tenure owners with claims within TFL 3. Crystal Graphite and World Wide Graphite are the largest claim holders, with current activity focused in the Hoder drainage. Crystal Graphite has become operational during the term of MP 9 and is developing a mining area near the back end of Hoder Creek. World Wide Graphite had plans to do some exploration during 2002 in the Freida Creek area. Anglo Swiss Resources have tenure in the Tedesco area.

The main interest in our planning from the mining community is in regards to road deactivation. We attempt to balance our environmental responsibilities with the needs of the other users in regards to level of deactivation. We also have a road-use agreement with Crystal Graphite for the use of Hoder Mainline and Little Slocan FSR, this agreement mainly identifies maintenance and safety issues.

4.3.3 *Range Tenure Holders*

No range tenure holders or current application for tenure exist within the TFL.

4.3.4 *Other Licensed Resource Users*

There are two commercial ski operations present within TFL 3; one in the backend of the Koch drainage at McKean Lakes (Kootenay Mountain Huts: Valhalla Lodge); the other in the southern portions of the TFL in the Airy/Russell drainages (Valhalla Powdercats).

Communication usually occurs in conjunction with the forest development plan. Valhalla Lodge is a well-established ski operation, no conflicts between our two operations have arisen within the past five years. The owners of Valhalla Lodge have made some suggestions on possible harvest areas that would benefit their operation but due to the proximity of the lodge (at the back end of the drainage), no operations have proceeded so far.

Valhalla Powdercats is a new operation, with field work (road and trail construction) planned to start in the Fall of 2002. The majority of their ski trail/runs are planned for the higher elevations above the operability line. Maps showing planned activities are being provided between and by both Valhalla Powdercats and ourselves.

4.3.5 *Aboriginal People*

There are two overlapping First Nations land claims on TFL 3; Westbank and Ktunaxa-Kinbasket and a number of bands which are indicating interest in the Arrow Forest District. At this point in time, the main discussion topic from First Nation groups in response to TFL referral letters is concerning the settling of land claim issues with the government and as such little input has been provided regarding management activities to this point.

In the Spring of 2003, the Okanagan Nation Alliance (a cooperative organization of syilx speaking people) instigated discussions with government and licencees regarding activities within their traditional lands, TFL 3 is included in this area. It is Slocan's intent to continue to participate in discussions and to incorporate where possible information and

management concerns, brought forward by the Alliance, into our planning. We recognize that the government will need to play the key role where these discussions pertain to legal rights and land claim issues.

4.4 Forest Fire

Throughout the term of MP 9, there have not been any significant fires within TFL 3. Any fires that have occurred have been dealt with, depending on regional priorities, either by SFP or resources from the Southeast Fire Station.

4.4.1 Prevention and Suppression

As per the Forest Fire Prevention and Suppression Regulation, a fire preparedness plan is completed and submitted to the Arrow Forest District prior to April 1st each year. Under Slokan's Environmental Management System (EMS) fire training (S-100) is required for any member of a crew who may fight fires, this applies to both staff and contractors. Also as part of the EMS, Slokan ensures that all contractors carry the appropriate fire equipment during fire season.

4.4.2 Prescribed Fire and Fuel Management

Following harvest, each cutblock is assessed for fire hazard. This assessment identifies fuel depth, size, arrangement, and vegetation and slash presence. If a fire hazard exists as a result of the timber harvesting, SFP will reduce and/or remove the fire hazard according to the regulations and the condition of the hazard. To reduce potential hazards associated with the use of prescribed fire, site sensitivity will be assessed prior to burning.

SFP uses fire, both roadside piling and broadcast burning, as a management tool in order to reduce fuel loads, for clean-up activities, and for preparing sites for regeneration. Fire will be prescribed where it is most appropriate ecologically and will achieve stand resource management objectives. In all situations a prescribed fire will be directed as defined in the burn plan, the requirements of the burning permit, the district fire management plan and all government fire and smoke management policies and procedures.

4.5 Forest Health

4.5.1 Disease Management

The main diseases within the TFL area are Armillaria root rot (*Armillaria ostoyae*) and white pine blister rust (*Cronartium ribicola*), both are endemic. There are also minor incidences of dwarf mistletoe (*Arceuthobium spp.*), most of these are historical infestations primarily attacking western larch but lodgepole pine and Douglas-fir are also susceptible.

Armillaria Root Rot

Armillaria can attack and kill vigorously growing trees throughout a rotation. Seedlings up to about 10 years old are killed within a few years after infection, while infection in older conifers results in a decline in shoot growth for many years. In older trees the shape of the upper crown may change from conical to rounded and often the top is offset to one side. Also, foliage gradually becomes stunted and sparse throughout the crown. Armillaria is known to occur in both of the ICH subzones in the TFL.

The current tactics for dealing with Armillaria are managing for mixed species stands, accepting a component (10%) of deciduous within the stand, planting species which are more resistant to root rot, and where possible planting seedlings a minimum of 50 cm from stumps. Stumping is also a management practice used in the region but it is not one that we tend to utilize because of the steepness of the terrain of our current operations. There have also been concerns raised by local government regarding soil disturbance issues and stream sedimentation potential with stumping. We did perform a trial in 1994/95 of pop-up spacing (removing whole trees, including roots with an excavator equipped with a Tree Max pop-up spacing head) on a 16 year old. While this was an interesting trial, it is not operationally efficient nor, again due to our topography, practical in most of our younger stands.

White Pine Blister Rust

White pine makes up an insignificant component of the forested landbase of TFL 3. Currently there is twenty-nine hectares of mature white pine leading stands and less than 100 ha of immature stands within the TFL. We recognize that white pine has the potential for superior growth rates as well as improved market value over most other commercial conifer species. For these reasons and in an attempt to retain the natural diversity of native species in the TFL, we have included white pine in our seedling portfolio but only want rust resistant stock to be planted. Currently, White Pine seedling makes up less than 2% of our planting stock. We have only limited access of rust resistant seedling stock. Where necessary for stocking purposes, we will also include natural white pine but commit to pruning to 1.3 metres to reduce the stem's susceptibility to blister rust.

Both of these silviculture strategies were documented in the White Pine Management Plan – TFL #3 prepared by Timberland Consultants in the mid-1990's for Slocan (included as Appendix V in MP 9). These strategies are our focus for white pine management, little other work has been done or is planned for the near future.

4.5.2 Pest Management

The major insects active in TFL 3 are the spruce bark beetle (*Dendroctonus rufipennis*), mountain pine bark beetle (*Dendroctonus ponderosae*), Douglas-fir bark beetle (*Dendroctonus pseudotsugae*) and the spruce weevil (*Pissodes strobi*). Due to the species mix, none seem to be epidemic.

Spruce Weevil

Spruce weevil damage has generally been limited to regenerating stands in the Dago, Greasybill and Grizzly Creek areas. Attack rates by the weevil typically increase rapidly within a few years of initial attack (usually 5 years after stand establishment). As the stand ages, the attack rates stabilize and then decline. Weevils are not a problem in mature stands. We have learnt from past errors and avoid planting high proportions of spruce in areas where a known risk of weevil is identified. Management practices in currently infected stands have been to monitor stocking and where necessary fill plant areas with shade tolerant species.

Bark Beetles

During the term of MP 9, the Arrow Forest District has been taking the initiative to annually fly the district and produce overview survey maps. In the 2001 survey, there were 20 “point” identifications and one polygon identification (rated as low infestation severity) of Douglas-fir and Mountain pine beetle sites in the TFL. This is relatively minor from the district-wide perspective, however we try to incorporate infestation sites with development. In 2000, we had fairly intensive surveying done of an area along the Little Slokan mainline as a result of what we thought was a Douglas-fir beetle attack. It ended up being more of an Armillaria issue with some beetle activity.

SFP’s main management tactic in regards to bark beetles is to incorporate infestation sites where feasible into development areas. If the area had a high infestation severity, we would implement a trap tree removal program with the possible addition of pheromone traps.

4.5.3 Other

Windthrow

Windthrow is the process by which trees are uprooted by the wind and blown over causing potentially significant losses. While wind plays an important role in modifying the structural diversity of the stands in the TFL, it is SFP’s objective to minimize large-scale windthrow occurrences. We have not had any major windthrow disturbances over the last 5 years. We commit to managing for windthrow within the TFL, the following are the main strategies used to minimize windthrow:

- Design block boundaries recognizing stand risk to windthrow (i.e. downwind boundaries should be located in or near to wind firm stands) and openings oriented so that the length is in the direction of prevailing storm winds;
- Edge feathering to reduce the drag force on boundary trees;
- Make use of natural boundaries that reduce wind strength (i.e. rock bluffs)
- Ensure poorly drained areas are not directly exposed to the wind; and
- Avoid damage of structural roots on block boundaries.

4.6 Silviculture

Over the term of the previous management plan, SFP has achieved numerous silviculture goals as guided by the silviculture objectives of MP 9. Over the past 5 years, cutblock reforestation has been, on average, within 1.7 years of harvesting. This represents a slight decrease in the regeneration delay of 1.9 years from the previous MP.

The silviculture objectives set out for this plan are focusing on basic silviculture and are:

- Restock and promote a free growing condition on all disturbed lands with specific target stocking levels and species within a minimum time period.
- To restock NSR lands with a detailed, scheduled silviculture program.
- To encourage multi-species planting to satisfy stand level biodiversity requirements and limit the impacts of insect and disease infestations.

- To improve the growth potential of all disturbed lands through the utilization of Class A orchard stock for planting.

During the term of MP 9, a Type 2 Silviculture Strategy was completed (the document is available at SFP's office). The silviculture strategy was a forest-level modeling project that examined the implications of a variety of silviculture regimes on timber supply projections. The objective of the project was to provide strategic direction to TFL 3's silviculture program. Four regimes were finally reviewed:

- No treatment of backlog NSR areas: this resulted in a 2.4% negative impact in the long term harvest level (LTHL).
- The use of select stock to achieve genetic gain in plantations: this resulted in a 13.7% positive gain to the LTHL.
- Including commercial thinning as part of the silviculture practices on future (select stock) stands: 0.2% gain
- Adding spacing and fertilization to the activities on the future select stock stands which will also include commercial thinning: 0.6% gain.

It was obvious that the biggest gain is the use of select stock in our planting program, which is part of our current practices (see Section 4.6.1) and will be expanded as further species become available through select stock program. The other major impact identified in this project was the treatment of backlog NSR, which we also attempt to address (see Section 4.6.3).

4.6.1 Basic Silviculture

Basic silviculture refers to activities that are necessary to assist an area that has been harvested to regenerate a new forest. Such activities include site preparation, planting, brushing and weeding and surveying.

Table 4.1 Basic Silviculture activities (in hectares) from 1997-2001

Activity	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	Total
Site Prep	83	73	26	68	147	397
Planting	119	226	50	70	325	790
Brushing	78	32	23	180	134	447
Surveying	275	258	317	774	577	2201

Between 1997 and 2001, inclusive, just over 1 million trees were planted in the TFL. Where available, Class A Orchard seed stock is used. During this period 46% of the seedlings planted were from the Orchard stock (seed available and used in the TFL for seedlings were larch, lodgepole pine and spruce; blister rust resistant white pine stock was also utilized). We anticipate that Orchard seed will be available for Douglas-fir in 2003 and we will include it in the TFL planting regime.

Table 4.2 Seedlings planted 1997-2001 by seed type

Species	Class A (Orchard) # of seedlings	Class B (Natural) # of seedlings	Total # of seedlings	% of Class A
Western Red Cedar	0	7610	7610	0 %
Douglas Fir	0	153,440	153,440	0 %
Larch	38,610	130,882	169,492	23 %
Lodgepole Pine	28,050	209,875	237,925	12 %
White Pine	14,500	2010	16,510	88 %
Yellow Pine	0	39,890	39,890	0 %
Spruce	393,220	10,010	403,230	98 %
Total	474,380	553,717	1,028,097	46 %

4.6.2 Incremental Silviculture

Incremental silviculture refers to treatments carried out during stand development for the purpose of maintaining or increasing stand yield and/or value or to modify stand structure to meet other stand level objectives (biodiversity, wildlife habitat, forest health, etc). The objectives of incremental silviculture activities go beyond the basic silviculture requirements and are focused on enhancing timber values and increasing sustainable harvest levels. Incremental activities include mainly spacing, pruning, fertilization and conifer release.

Much of the incremental silviculture done during the term of MP 9 was funded through Forest Renewal. Our present management philosophy for incremental silviculture is focused primarily on addressing harvest levels. Currently our main focus has been on conifer release and this will be continued.

4.6.3 Backlog NSR

NSR (not satisfactorily restocked) describes productive forest land that has been denuded and has not been regenerated to the desired stocking standards. Backlog NSR are areas of productive forest land that was harvested or cleared prior to October 1, 1987 and in the District Manager's opinion is insufficiently stocked with healthy, well-spaced trees of a commercially acceptable species. Funding from Forest Renewal BC was used to address much of the backlog NSR areas.

In MP 9, 277 hectares were identified as Backlog NSR (this was a decrease of 700 hectares from Management & Working Plan No. 8); as of December 2001 we have reduced this area to 122 hectares. We intend over the term of this plan, to continue to review the backlog NSR areas until we feel that all areas that's best ecological and most economical purpose is timber production are back in the productive landbase. There are some areas, through discussion with government agencies, where it is recognized that certain areas are more useful from a wildlife perspective, to leave as NSR. Due to the limited area remaining in the backlog NSR category, this is not a high priority issue.

4.7 Roads

4.7.1 Construction and Modification

Road construction or modifications if improperly planned can have a negative effect on nearby watercourses through erosion and siltation of streams and lead to other environmental damage. SFP's objectives regarding road construction are to build a road network that is effective for access, minimize environmental damage and ensures safe transportation throughout the TFL. In order to achieve these objectives, SFP will utilize these strategies for construction activities:

- Utilize design and construction principles that consider other forest resources (i.e. water), terrain stability and sensitive area; and
- Regulate road construction activities to ensure above objectives are satisfied.

During the term of MP 9, SFP undertook the project to upgrade the Little Slocan Mainline (FSR) to improve the safety and condition of the road. This project included widening the road at the south end of the TFL, realignment and surfacing of the road for approximately 10 km. Our focus over the next 5 years will be on operational roads, no major modification projects are planned at this time.

4.7.2 Maintenance

Inspections of roads, bridges and major culverts to evaluate condition and performance are an important component of SFP's road maintenance program. Our objectives of the maintenance program are:

- To ensure functionality of drainage systems.
- To minimize the discharge of sediments originating from roads and drainage structures.
- To ensure the safe use of roads by industrial and public users.

Inspection and maintenance operations tend to focus on heavily used roads where travel by logging trucks and vehicles associated with development and harvest operations is concentrated. SFP has reduced the risk of neglecting less traveled road systems by including in the inspection and maintenance programs the following:

- Inspections of the road systems by operations staff immediately after seasonal shutdown and major rainstorms.
- Through our environmental management system, road inspection reports identify action items that are required and track the implementation of such items.
- Maintaining a road, bridge and major culvert inventory.

4.7.3 Deactivation

Deactivation must be conducted in a manner that recognizes the period of time access is to be suspended, its effect on other forest resources, including its effect on water quality. The level of deactivation (i.e. permanent (all terrain vehicle accessible or not accessible by any vehicle type); semi-permanent (4-wheel drive truck accessible)) is dependent on primarily

site-specific conditions but also considers future plans for the road system and historical use of the roads. Where we know of other users, we attempt to maintain semi-permanent access but for environmental reasons this is not always possible.

Detailed prescriptions are currently prepared for the following area types:

- Close proximity to high-value fish streams
- Gullied topography
- High erosion capability areas
- Continuous slopes over 60%
- Steep road grades over long sections of road, and
- Extensive sections of permanent deactivation areas

SFP's objectives for deactivation are as follows:

- Stabilization of the road prism and cleared width
- Restoration, maintenance and control of surface and subsurface natural drainage patterns
- Incorporation of access needs for future forest management activities and other resource users
- Consideration of other forest resource management objectives (i.e. access of wildlife habitat areas)

Regarding deactivation, our intention throughout the term of MP 10 is to continue to address operational roads. No major deactivation/restoration projects are anticipated at this time.

5.0 CONSULTATION WITH OTHER RESOURCE USERS

Through a letter referral, other resource users are being notified regarding the availability of the plan for review and comment. Many of these organizations we are in contact through either their or our operational planning processes. We are notifying the following groups (a full list of referrals is included in Appendix III):

- Individuals holding trapping licences within the TFL
- Adjacent Woodlot licencees
- Mineral tenure holders within TFL 3
- Commercial recreational ski companies operating within TFL 3
- First Nations groups, both those who have formal land claim titles and those groups who have shown interest in the Arrow Forest District.
- Local water users both within the TFL and within the influence of TFL operations

We are making the plan available at both the Ministry of Forest's District office in Castlegar and the Regional office in Nelson. In addition, the plan will be available in our office and the village office in Slocan City. We are also hoping that we will be able to post the management plan document with resource maps (excluding MP 9's timber supply analysis and 20-year plan) on the Slocan Group's website at www.slocan.com/tfl3.

We did not intend to hold an open house for the plan; this may be re-evaluated if we feel that there is interest in such an activity.

6.0 IMPACT SUMMARY OF MP IMPLEMENTATION

There are no significant management changes being implemented from those that were identified in MP 9. The KBHLPO is one of the major differences, however much of the concepts were incorporated as part of the KBLUP-IS in the previous management plan. In addition, three-quarters of TFL 3 is classified as low biodiversity emphasis option. Management of connectivity and grizzly bear habitat still present some challenges. However, no change to the allowable annual cut is occurring as a result of this plan.

Table 6.1 Economic Summary 1997-2001

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	Total 1997 - 2001
Logs Processed in Cubic Metres						
Crown Lands (TFL 3)	59443	42862	71046	84656	64529	322,536
Crown Lands (Forest Licences/other)	225710	185021	223339	289488	267332	1,190,890
Private purchase	128508	68084	102658	42527	85493	427,270
Total	413,661	295,967	397,043	416,671	417,354	1,940,696
Average number of Jobs						
Staff	44	43	37	39	38	201
Union	178	150	157	162	166	813
Quota harvesting contractors	150	172	150	150	150	772
Total	372	365	344	351	354	1,786
Distribution of Dollars Spent						
Payroll & Employee Benefits	18,695,124	15,785,773	10,929,148	11,550,692	11,990,472	68,951,209
Consultants & non-quota contractors	3,408,777	2,245,012	1,748,962	2,326,326	1,970,062	11,699,139
Stumpage, Quota and Leases	1,985,090	1,311,841	1,941,091	4,069,164	4,143,831	13,451,017
Taxes: Property, Sales, Income	2,669,055	387,543	3,591,809	2,812,599	85,202	9,546,208
Supplies & Freight	8,623,431	5,404,379	3,420,582	2,707,495	3,482,337	23,638,224
Private wood cost	15,325,496	6,190,749	6,963,129	3,884,579	7,952,313	40,316,266
Funds Invested - Plant	209,610	29,736	307,532	1,757,797	735,739	3,040,414
Funds Invested - Roads	611,803	2,677,449	3,299,965	3,874,792	4,197,976	14,661,985
Silviculture	2,335,041	959,173	1,383,506	1,907,339	1,710,515	8,295,574
Quota harvesting cost	11,056,639	8,301,718	10,663,420	13,805,816	11,841,250	55,668,843
Donations	52,255	84,073	89,114	62,578	153,878	441,898
Total Dollars Spent	64,972,321	43,377,446	44,338,257	48,759,177	48,263,575	249,710,776
Dollars spent per m ³ of logs processed	157.07	146.56	111.67	117.02	115.64	128.67
Jobs per 1000 m ³	0.90	1.23	0.87	0.84	0.85	0.92
Average SFP wage & benefits per job	\$84,212	\$81,792	\$56,336	\$57,466	\$58,777	\$67,999
Cost of quota logs delivered (\$/m ³)	69.06	73.58	65.81	69.22	72.70	69.87
Cost of private wood delivered (\$/m ³)	119.26	90.93	67.83	91.34	93.02	94.36

7.0 SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES BETWEEN MP 9 & 10

The overall management philosophy between MP 9 and MP 10 is the same; management of the TFL lands in a manner that will ensure a productive forest for both timber and non-timber uses. As values and concerns change or become more refined so do our management practices.

Section 3.0 identifies changes and status of resource information and inventories, the most significant change during the term of MP 9 was the work done on the forest cover inventory.

The Chief Forester and his staff reviewed the changes in data and management policies since the AAC determination for MP 9 and concluded that the AAC for TFL 3 was not likely to change significantly with a new determination made at the present time. As such, the Chief Forester postponed the next allowable annual cut determination for five years (Appendix IV).

8.0 SCHEDULE B PRORATE

Timber Harvesting Land Base (THLB)

Schedule A Land: nil

Schedule B Land: 28,016 ha

$$\text{Prorate} = \frac{\text{Current THLB (Schedule B Land)}}{\text{Current THLB (Total TFL)}}$$

$$\text{Prorate} = \frac{28,016 \text{ ha}}{28,016 \text{ ha}} = 100\%$$

The THLB of 28,016 ha is based on information in Table 2 of MP 9's Timber Supply Analysis Report (March 1998).

Total TFL THLB: 28,016 ha

9.0 PUBLIC REVIEW

Public comment on Slocan's operations are always welcome. As part of the management plan process, public comment is encouraged and accepted specifically in relation to this document that is intended to outline strategic forest management objectives for TFL 3.

This draft plan was available for viewing from December 2, 2002 to February 14, 2003 at the following locations during business hours:

- Slocan Forest Products, Slocan Division office – 705 Delany Ave., Slocan (250) 355-2100 Contact Kathy Howard; Monday to Friday 8 am to 4 pm.
- Nelson Forest Region office – 518 Lake Street, Nelson (250) 354-6200 Contact Bernie Peschke; Monday to Friday 8:30 am to 4 pm.
- Arrow Forest District office – 845 Columbia Ave., Castlegar (250) 365-8600 Contact Ted Evans; Monday to Friday 8 am to 4:30 pm, excluding noon to 1 pm.
- Slocan City, Village office – 503 Slocan Ave., Slocan Monday to Friday 9 am to 4 pm
- www.slocan.com/tfl3 - only the management plan document with resource maps (map folio) will be available on the website in adobe acrobat format. The previous MP timber supply analysis and 20-Year plan is only available at the above-mentioned offices.

Notification of the availability of the management plan for review will be sent to parties who have shown interest in TFL operations in the past either as part of the previous Management Plan, through the Forest Development Plan process or through general operations (referral list included in Appendix III). We will also be advertising the plan in the two local papers (Valley Voice and the Pennywise).

Comments on this plan were to be sent by February 14, 2003 to the attention of Kathy Howard, RPF at Slocan Forest Products Ltd. 705 Delany Ave., Slocan, BC V0G 2C0.