

Business Area:
 Date Approved:
 TSM Approval Signature: _____

BC TIMBER SALES
SFI ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES MATRIX
SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard

OBJECTIVES	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	INDICATORS	HOW CONFORMANCE IS BEING ACHIEVED (Provincial wide actions to achieve conformance)	HOW CONFORMANCE IS BEING ACHIEVED (Optional column - Business Area specific action to achieve conformance)	INFORMATION SOURCES (Provincial and Business Area specific)	RESPONSIBILITIES (Provincial and BA specific)
Objective 1: FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANNING. To ensure forest management plans include long-term sustainable harvest levels and measures to avoid forest conversion.	1.1) Program Participants shall ensure that forest management plans include long-term harvest levels that are sustainable and consistent with appropriate growth and yield models.	1.1.1) Forest management planning at a level appropriate to the size and scale of the operation, including:				
		a) a long term resource analysis	Timber Supply Review and long term resource analyses are periodically undertaken by the Forest Analysis and Inventory Branch.		http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hts/analysis.htm	BC Forest Analysis & Inventory Branch (conduct of Timber Supply Reviews and resource analyses)
		b) a periodic or ongoing forest inventory	Forest inventories are undertaken periodically by the Forest Analysis and Inventory Branch.		http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hts/inventory.htm	BC Forest Analysis & Inventory Branch (conduct and maintenance of forest inventories)
		c) a land classification system	Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification System for BC.		http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hre/becweb/	BC Provincial Forest Science Program (maintenance of BEC)
		d) biodiversity at landscape scales	Biodiversity at landscape scales is addressed through results and strategies contained in Forest Stewardship Plans (FSPs) (i.e. Provincial Order Establishing Non-spatial Old Growth Objectives, legally established Landscape Unit Plans or Land Use Plans). See indicator 4.1.1 below for additional provincial-wide actions to achieve conformance.		http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/SLRP/ http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/slrp/policies-guides/old-growth/Old_Growth_Order_May18th_FINAL.pdf	BC Ministry of Forest, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (land use orders)
		e) soils inventory and maps, where available	Soil inventories and mapping are available at provincial / regional scales from the Ministry of Environment. For forest management planning purposes, the BC forest inventory and Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification System integrate soil information that is applied at appropriate scales for modelling long term forest productivity and yield. Detailed soil information is gathered during field data collection for project plan preparation.		http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/soils/	BC Ministry of Environment (development and maintenance of soil inventories and mapping)
		f) access to growth & yield modeling capabilities	Growth and Yield (G&Y) modeling is carried out by the Forest Analysis and Inventory Branch to which all BAs have access.		http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hts/SDM.htm	BC Forest Analysis & Inventory Branch (G&Y modelling)
		g) up-to-date maps or a geographic information system (GIS)	BCTS maintains a geographic information system based on ArcGIS (ArcInfo). This system is linked to live provincial data B.C. Geographic Information Warehouse and local data, to provide a complete current data set. BAs have an on staff geomatics section whose duties include GIS and map updating.		Cengea Forest Resources B.C. Geographic Information Warehouse (for spatial layers)	GeoBC (B.C. Geographic Information Warehouse)

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		h) recommended sustainable harvest levels for areas available for harvest, and	Long-term harvest levels for TSAs and TFLs are determined through the Timber Supply Review and recommended by the Chief Forester. The Minister, under the authority of Section 10 of the Forest Act, may apportion the AAC of a TSA to various forms of agreement, including TSLs issued by BCTS.		http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hts/analysis.htm	BC Forest Analysis & Inventory Branch (TSRs for TFLs and TSAs)
		i) a review of non-timber issues (e.g. recreation, tourism, pilot projects and economic incentive programs to promote water protection, carbon storage, bioenergy feedstock production, or biological diversity conservation, or to address climate-induced ecosystem change)	Non-timber issues are addressed as net-downs and assumptions during the Timber Supply Review and operationally through Forest Stewardship Plans. BAs are committed to achieving the results & strategies for these values as stated in the FSPs. Current BCTS initiatives such as Innovative Timber Sales Licences address bioenergy feedstock production. Climate induced ecosystem change is addressed through MOE initiatives such as the Future Forest Ecosystem Initiative.		Forest Stewardship Plans, Timber Supply Reviews, FFEI web-site http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hts/future_forests/	BC Forest Analysis & Inventory Branch (TSRs for TFLs and TSAs)
		1.1.2) Documented current harvest trends fall within long-term sustainable levels identified in the forest management plan.	BAs track apportionment and volume sold, harvested and billed (stumpage) on an annual basis. This information is tracked over a period of time to ensure trends are monitored and actual harvest levels are sustainable.		BCTS Apportionment and Commitment Management System	BCTS HQ Business Information Section (establish and maintain provincial system)
		1.1.3) A forest inventory system and a method to calculate growth and yield	Forest inventories are managed by the Forest Analysis and Inventory Branch who also review and implement methodologies and models used to calculate growth.		http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hts/#inventory http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hre/gymodels/index.htm	BC Forest Analysis & Inventory Branch (conduct and maintain forest inventories) Provincial research programs (G&Y modelling)
		1.1.4) Periodic updates of forest inventory and re-calculation of planned harvests to account for changes in growth due to productivity increases or decreases, including but not limited to improved data, long-term drought, fertilization, climate change, changes in forestland ownership and tenure, or forest health.	Forest inventories are updated periodically by the Forest Analysis and Inventory Branch. Timber Supply Reviews, conducted at least once every 10 years for each Timber Supply Area and Tree Farm Licence, utilize the results of inventory updates to set allowable annual cut levels (note: the TSR may be conducted up to every 15 years, if the Chief Forester determines that the allowable annual cut will not significantly change).		http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hts/#inventory	BC Forest Analysis & Inventory Branch (conduct and maintain forest inventories) BC Chief Forester (AAC determinations)

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		<p>1.1.5) Documentation of forest practices (e.g. planting, fertilization, and thinning) consistent with assumptions in harvest plans.</p>	<p>This information is entered in the Cengea Forest Resources and RESULTS databases as the activities occur. Reports can be generated for any of these activities. Harvesting is carried out consistent with site and silviculture plans.</p>		<p>Cengea Forest Resources & RESULTS databases: http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/his/results/ Completed BCTS CHK-007 - Harvesting Inspection; Completed BCTS CHK-008 - Silviculture Inspection Completed CHK-005 - Final Block Inspection Checklist Internal Road & Block Reviews (where completed)</p>	
	<p>1.2) Program Participants shall not convert one forest cover type to another forest cover type, unless in justified circumstances.</p>	<p>1.2.1) Program Participants shall not convert one forest cover type to another forest cover type, unless the conversion: a. Is in compliance with relevant national and regional policy and legislation related to land use and forest management; and b. Would not convert native forest types that are rare and ecologically significant at the landscape level or put any native forest types at risk of becoming rare; and c. Does not create significant long-term adverse impacts on Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value, old-growth forests, forests critical to threatened and endangered species, and special sites.</p>	<p>BCTS reforests with species that are designated as ecologically 'preferred' or 'acceptable' in the approved Stocking Standards contained in approved FSPs. BA programs for Species at Risk (SAR) management identify and accommodate rare and ecologically significant native forest types where they exist. Ministerial Orders and Higher Level Plans establish Old Growth Management Area objectives and locations, which are reflected in FSPs. The BCTS Climate Change Action Plan 2015 – 2020 includes an objective and related actions to introduce species outside of their current range but within projected suitable climate envelopes - this objective addresses risk to regeneration success due to changes in temperature and precipitation and is consistent with the FLNR Climate Change Strategy (2013 – 2018).</p>		<p>http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/SLRP/ http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/slrp/policies-guides/old-growth/Old_Growth_Order_May18th_FINAL.pdf Order Establishing Provincial Non-spatial Old Growth Objectives and Old Growth Implementation Policy FSPs BA SAR protocols BA SAR training packages Site Plans FLNR Climate Change Strategy (2013 – 2018), Sept 10, 2013</p>	<p>FLNR Competitiveness and Innovation Branch (Climate Change Strategy)</p>

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		<p>1.2.2) Where a Program Participant intends to convert to another forest cover type, an assessment considers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Productivity and stand quality conditions and impacts which may include social and economic values; b. Specific ecosystem issues related to the site such as invasive species, insect or disease issues, riparian protection needs and others as appropriate to the site including regeneration challenges; and c. Ecological impacts of the conversion including a review at the site and landscape scale as well as consideration for any appropriate mitigation measures. 	<p>BCTS does not normally convert forest lands to other forest types other than in those circumstances outlined for indicator 1.2.1, above. In the event that BCTS intends to convert forest lands to other forest cover types under other circumstances than those outlined, the required assessments will be completed.</p>			
	<p>1.3) Program Participants shall not have within the scope of their certification to this SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard forestlands that have been converted to nonforestland use.</p>	<p>1.3.1) Forest lands converted to other land uses shall not be certified to this SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard. This does not apply to forestlands used for forest and wildlife management such as wildlife food plots or infrastructure such as forest roads, log processing areas, trails etc.</p>	<p>In the event that BCTS intends to convert forest lands to other land uses other than forestlands used for forest and wildlife management such as wildlife food plots or infrastructure such as forest roads, log processing areas, trails etc., the area will be removed from the area certified to the SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard.</p>			<p>Certification Officer (documentation of removal from the area certified to the SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard)</p>

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Objective 2: FOREST HEALTH AND PRODUCTIVITY. To ensure long-term forest productivity, carbon storage, and conservation of forest resources through prompt reforestation, afforestation, minimized chemical use, soil conservation, and protecting forests from damaging agents.	2.1) Program Participants shall promptly reforest after final harvest	2.1.1) Documented reforestation plans, including designation of all harvest areas for either natural, planted or direct seeded regeneration and prompt reforestation, unless delayed for site-specific environmental or forest health considerations or legal requirements, through planting within two years or two planting seasons, or by planned natural regeneration methods within five years.	<p>All harvest blocks have a silviculture treatment regime in Cengea Forest Resources that includes a site plan that sets out the reforestation criteria by standard unit for the harvest area. All Standard units are designated for either natural or artificial regeneration.</p> <p>A Site Plan, specifying the reforestation prescription, is completed for all blocks and the treatment regime is monitored in the Cengea Forest Resources database. Stocking Standards, including the maximum regeneration delay (as measured from the time of harvest commencement) are assigned to all sites based on ecological factors. The maximum regeneration delay specified by the applicable standard may exceed 5 years, based on the site factors that apply and if natural regeneration methods are suitable. Generally, all sites that are prescribed for artificial regeneration are planted within 2 years after harvest and prior to competing brush establishing. Sites for which natural regeneration will be relied upon are assessed for regeneration success prior to the expiry of the regeneration delay period and stocking is supplemented through planting as necessary. Business Areas monitor and report on regeneration success and compliance with standards on an ongoing basis. This information is included in the SFI Annual SFI Report.</p>		Cengea Forest Resources RESULTS data bases http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/his/results/ Site Plans Cengea Forest Resources RESULTS database SFI Annual Progress Report	
		2.1.2) Clear criteria to judge adequate regeneration and appropriate actions to correct understocked areas and achieve acceptable species composition and stocking rates for planting, direct seeding and natural regeneration.	<p>A Site Plan assigns Stocking Standards to each site and these specify the standards and criteria used to judge the achievement of regeneration success, including the timelines considered appropriate. These Standards must be consistent with those established by the Chief Forester and are approved within the Forest Stewardship Plans for the Business Areas. Regeneration surveys are carried out by qualified silviculture surveyors prior to the expiry of the regeneration delay period to assess the stocking status. The stocking status is tracked in the Cengea Forest Resources database for management purposes. Areas that are under-stocked are scheduled for follow-up treatment and monitoring prior to the expiry of the regeneration delay period.</p>		Site Plans FSP Stocking Standards Cengea Forest Resources	

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		<p>2.1.3) Plantings of exotic tree species should minimize risk to native ecosystems.</p>	<p>BCTS does not plant exotic species towards achieving basic regeneration requirements and their use is controlled to be in accordance with Chief Forester guidelines. BCTS plants species that are designated as ecologically 'preferred' or 'acceptable' in the approved Stocking Standards contained in the Forest Stewardship Plans. The use of exotics would only be considered experimentally and with suitable monitoring systems in place.</p> <p>Note re climate change adaptation - some BAs have planting strategies that consider the impacts of climate change. The Chief Forester guidelines allow planting of up to 5% species 'not approved in the stocking standards' in the overall planting program.</p>		<p>Forest Stewardship Plan Stocking Standards Annual Planting Reports Provincial Seed Register Site Plan Chief Forester Guidelines</p>	<p>BC Chief Forester (guidelines)</p>
		<p>2.1.4) Protection of desirable or planned advanced natural regeneration during harvest.</p>	<p>TSL documents and project plans specify the criteria that apply to leave trees (e.g. advanced regeneration) that are to be relied upon towards achievement of regeneration objectives following harvest. This is accomplished through measures that include, but are not limited to; machine-free zones, fall away, yard away techniques, designated hoe trails, etc. Site-specific measures are described in the project plan(s).</p>		<p>TSL Documents Project plans</p>	
		<p>2.1.5) Afforestation programs that consider potential ecological impacts of the selection and planting of tree species in non-forested landscapes</p>	<p>Afforestation programs by BCTS are minimal in scope and are limited to select sites harvested by BCTS for which there is no reforestation obligation (e.g. landings and road edges; or sites impacted by landslides or other events). Species selection is matched to the site, consistent with the stocking standards and the Chief Foresters Standards for Seed Use that would apply if there were a reforestation obligation.</p>		<p>Forest Stewardship Plan Stocking Standards Site and Project Plans Chief Foresters Standards for Seed Use</p>	<p>BC Chief Forester (Standards for Seed Use)</p>
	<p>2.2) Program Participants shall minimize chemical use required to achieve management objectives while protecting employees, neighbours, the public and the environment including wildlife and aquatic habitats</p>	<p>2.2.1) Minimized chemical use required to achieve management objectives.</p>	<p>The use of chemicals to achieve management objectives is kept to a minimum by prompt reforestation, controlling the harvesting timeframe and using the most suitable stock to help promote optimum tree growth. Some BAs currently use no chemicals for vegetation/pest management. Where chemicals are used, use is in accordance with an approved Pest Management Plan (PMP). Pesticide use on seedlings is consistent with Pesticide Control Act. Staff and contractors are informed of chemical use.</p>		<p>Integrated Pest Management Act Pest Control Products Act http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/theme.page?id=9C0666DDF79681160264E5B0EC29ECFB</p>	<p>BC Ministry of Environment (BC pesticide legislation, confirmation of receipt of pesticide use notice)</p>

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		2.2.2) Use of least-toxic and narrowest spectrum pesticides necessary to achieve management objectives.	In BAs where chemicals are used, use will only be considered in accordance with an approved Pest Management Plan.		Integrated Pest Management Act Pest Control Products Act http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/theme.page?id=9C0666DDF79681160264E5B0EC29ECFB	BC Ministry of Environment (BC pesticide legislation, confirmation of receipt of pesticide use notice)
		2.2.3) Use of pesticides registered for the intended use and applied in accordance with label requirements.	In BAs where chemicals are used, chemical use is only employed when in accordance with an approved PMP and, if for reforestation purposes, according to the detailed prescription for the block. Operational contracts standards specify the application methods, application rate and other requirements. For treatment of small areas for invasive species, a detailed prescription is not required.		Integrated Pest Management Act Pest Control Products Act http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/theme.page?id=9C0666DDF79681160264E5B0EC29ECFB	BC Ministry of Environment (BC pesticide legislation, confirmation of receipt of pesticide use notice)
		2.2.4) The World Health Organization (WHO) type 1A and 1B pesticides shall be prohibited, except where no other viable alternative is available.	BCTS does not use World Health Organization (WHO) type 1A and 1B pesticides.		WHO Pesticide Hazard Classification http://www.who.int/entity/ipcs/publications/pesticides_hazard_2009.pdf?ua=1 Integrated Pest Management Act Pest Control Products Act http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/theme.page?id=9C0666DDF79681160264E5B0EC29ECFB	BC Ministry of Environment (BC pesticide legislation, confirmation of receipt of pesticide use notice)
		2.2.5) Use of pesticides banned under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (2001) shall be prohibited.	BCTS does not use pesticides banned under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (2001).		Stockholm Convention on POP (2001) http://www.google.ca/url?url=http://www.pops.int/documents/convtext/convtext_en.pdf&rct=j&frm=1&q=&esrc=s&sa=U&ved=0CCsQFjABahUKEwj5muGCwYrGAhWPnYgKHTaNAy8&usg=AFQjCNGuTaqieiYABMYnZjZRAF_10AID1g Integrated Pest Management Act Pest Control Products Act http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/theme.page?id=9C0666DDF79681160264E5B0EC29ECFB	BC Ministry of Environment (BC pesticide legislation, confirmation of receipt of pesticide use notice)
		2.2.6) Use of integrated pest management where feasible.	In BAs where chemicals are used, use will only be considered in accordance with an approved Pest Management Plan.		Integrated Pest Management Act Pest Control Products Act http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/theme.page?id=9C0666DDF79681160264E5B0EC29ECFB	BC Ministry of Environment (BC pesticide legislation, confirmation of receipt of pesticide use notice)
		2.2.7) Supervision of forest chemical applications by state- or provincial- trained or certified applicators.	In BAs where chemicals are used, operational control standards and the PMP specify qualifications and standards for applicators. For application areas greater than 0.5ha, there is on site supervision at all times during herbicide application to monitor conformance with the prescriptions, contract and PMP standards.		Integrated Pest Management Act Pest Control Products Act http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/theme.page?id=9C0666DDF79681160264E5B0EC29ECFB	BC Ministry of Environment (BC pesticide legislation, confirmation of receipt of pesticide use notice)

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		2.2.8) Use of management practices appropriate to the situation, for example (see SFI 2015-2019 Standard for examples)	In BAs where chemicals are used, use will only be considered in accordance with an approved Pest Management Plan.		Integrated Pest Management Act Pest Control Products Act http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/theme.page?id=9C0666DDF79681160264E5B0EC29ECFB	BC Ministry of Environment (BC pesticide legislation, confirmation of receipt of pesticide use notice)
	2.3) Program Participants shall implement forest management practices to protect and maintain forest and soil productivity.	2.3.1) Process to identify soils vulnerable to compaction, and use of appropriate methods, including the use of soil maps where available, to avoid excessive soil disturbance.	Site Plans show a hazard rating for soil compaction for each standard unit within each cut-block. The hazard rating determines the maximum allowable soil disturbance levels for each standard unit. The maximum soil disturbance limits are described in legislation (FPPR sec. 35). Soil disturbance limits are monitored in the field during active harvesting, road construction, and site preparation activities. The qualified professional preparing the site plan may provide recommendations to ensure timber harvesting operations remain under the limits. For silviculture operations that require equipment on site (e.g. mechanical site prep), the soil hazard ratings are considered in the selection of the site prep method. Site level soil composition information is gathered during the preparation of Block Site Plans. Measures to protect soil productivity are prescribed within site and project plans (i.e. Block Harvesting Plan, Road Layout and Design). Where available, maps showing Terrain Class IV and V, P and U, ESA Soil Sensitivity Class 1 and 2, and Slopes > 60% are reviewed prior to conducting any block and road layout activities in the field. Where stability issues are noted a Terrain Stability Assessment (TSA) is initiated. BCTS staff also have access to Ministry specialists for advice.		TSA reports Site Plans Project plans Cengea Forest Resources database Road Layout and Design Terrain Stability Assessment Standard Operating Procedures Cengea Forest Resources database Block Site Plans, Harvest Plans, Road Layout and Designs	
		2.3.2) Use of erosion control measures to minimize the loss of soil and site productivity.	Where necessary, specific erosion control measures for harvest areas are specified within site and project plans. For roads being constructed, Road Layout and Design, Terrain Stability Assessments and construction specifications in contract documents contain specific erosion control measures where necessary. The EMS ensures these measures are implemented, through pre-works and inspections related to these activities. Operational controls exist to minimize soil disturbance and impacts to water quality (e.g. EFPs). Regular road inspections ensure that erosion control needs are identified on existing roads and remedial actions are taken as necessary.		Site and project plans TSL documents	

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		<p>2.3.3) Post-harvest conditions conducive to maintaining site productivity (e.g. limited rutting, retained downed woody debris, minimized skid trails).</p>	<p>Active monitoring of soil disturbance occurs during harvest operations by BCTS and clients. In the event that soil disturbance appears to exceed requirements it must be documented on the inspection report and communicated to the licensee as a potential non-compliance. Soil disturbance is reviewed at this time by means of an ocular survey for consistency with the site plan. If the level of soil disturbance is not consistent at any time with the site plan, C&E is notified. The inspection by C&E may result in a detailed soil disturbance survey to be completed by C&E. Final harvest inspections are carried out to ensure conformance with the Site Plan, including the achievement of post harvest conditions that maintain site productivity. Any areas requiring rehabilitation are identified during the final harvest inspection.</p>		<p>Soil Conservation Surveys Guidebook: http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/legsregs/fpc/fpcguide/SOILSURV/soil-toc.htm Harvest Plan & Site Plan</p>	
		<p>2.3.4) Retention of vigorous trees during partial harvesting, consistent with scientific silvicultural standards for the area.</p>	<p>The FSP outlines results and strategies relating to stand level retention requirements and the stocking standards specify the acceptability criteria for trees retained during partial harvesting. The Block Site Plan and project plan outline the characteristics of stand level retention, including the amount, distribution, species, form and vigour of leave trees and how the retained trees will be considered towards achievement of the reforestation obligations for the site. Harvest inspections monitor conformance with the project plans.</p>		<p>FSP Site and project plans Cengea Forest Resources database</p>	
		<p>2.3.5) Criteria that address harvesting and site preparation to protect soil productivity.</p>	<p>Vulnerable soils are identified through the preparation of Site Plans and through terrain stability assessments (TSAs) (where conducted). Site Plans describe limits for site disturbance and methods for operating on soils where critical site conditions exist. Soil disturbance limits are set in legislation. Applicable documents are reviewed at the prework. Soil disturbance limits are monitored in the field during active harvesting, road construction, and site preparation activities.</p>		<p>Soil Conservation Surveys Guidebook: http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/legsregs/fpc/fpcguide/SOILSURV/soil-toc.htm TSA reports, Site Plans, Cengea Forest Resources database,</p>	<p>Resource Practices Branch (provincial guidance)</p>

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		2.3.6) Road construction and skidding layout to minimize impacts to soil productivity.	Where available, total chance planning ensures proposed new road networks (defined as a new road system as opposed to "one-off" sections of road) minimize total road construction while maximizing harvest chance. The maximum proportion of area occupied by roads and trails (% site disturbance relating to permanent access structures) is set in legislation and the FSP outlines associated results and strategies. The TSL document schedule C and road construction contract schedules specify road construction standards to minimize site loss. Critical site factors on the block are identified (i.e. critical stream crossings, unstable slopes etc.) and laid out in the field (as necessary). Monitoring of activities at all stages ensures consistency with the site and project plan and therefore the FSP. Operational controls exist to minimize soil disturbance and impacts to water quality (e.g. EFPs, EOPs, Checklists, BA EMS Supplements).		FSP Site and project plans TSL Documents Road Construction Contracts Cengea Forest Resources database EFPs	
	2.4) Program Participants shall manage so as to protect forests from damaging agents, such as environmentally or economically undesirable wildfire, pests, diseases and invasive exotic plants and animals, to maintain and improve long-term forest health, productivity, and economic viability.	2.4.1) Program to protect forests from damaging agents.	Forest health information is obtained through forest health surveys, silviculture surveys, pest mapping and District level annual forest health plans (where available). This information is incorporated into Site Plans and used to schedule harvesting, determine block layout and plan post harvest site treatments (e.g., stumping). For areas where removal of infestations by timber harvesting is not feasible, BAs consider the application of other measures to reduce the risk of spread. Fire preparedness is addressed through the environmental Emergency Response Plan (eERP) that is prepared by licensees and contractors. The eERP outlines the roles and responsibilities for fire preparedness and linkages to regulatory requirements, commitments made in the eERP are verified in the field by BA staff. The FSP outlines measures for invasive plants. Where necessary, BAs implement invasive plant programs.		http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/health/	

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		<p>2.4.2) Management to promote healthy and productive forest conditions to minimize susceptibility to damaging agents.</p>	<p>Pest incidence is considered when selecting species for artificial reforestation. Species are selected that are ecologically suitable for the site to promote both growth and vigour and reduce susceptibility to damaging agents. Information collected through pre-harvest surveys drives forest health management strategies which are incorporated into Site Plans. Scheduling and focussing harvesting within pest infested stands, stumping treatments, and planting alternate species are examples of health management strategies used in BAs. Surveys are conducted during regeneration establishment to monitor and provide information for further actions if required. FSP measures are implemented to minimize susceptibility to invasive plants.</p>		<p>Forest Stewardship Plan Stocking Standards Site Plan</p>	
		<p>2.4.3) Participation in, and support of, fire and pest prevention and control programs.</p>	<p><u>Pest prevention and control:</u> Forest health information is obtained through forest health surveys, silviculture surveys, pest mapping and District level annual forest health plans (where available). This information is incorporated into site and project plans and used to schedule harvesting, determine block layout and plan post harvest site treatments (e.g. stumping). <u>Fire prevention and control:</u> Fire preparedness is addressed through the Environmental Emergency Response Plan (eERP) that is prepared by licensees and contractors. Commitments made in the eERP are verified in the field by BA staff and harvest inspections through the EMS program ensure licensees, permittees and contractors meet the Wildfire Regulations. The BC Wildfire Service has extensive programs for fire prevention and control and to manage forest values that are subject to wildfires, BAs employ these measures. BCTS field staff, identified in EMS training matrix, participate in the S-100 basic fire fighter training. BCTS has been an active participant in the Protection Partnership Contingency Plan and will play an active role in the Wildfire TEAMS model program.</p>		<p>http://bcwildfire.ca/ http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/health/</p>	<p>Districts (forest health surveys, plans) Licensees and contractors (eERPs) BC Wildfire Service (fire prevention and control)</p>

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	2.5) Program Participants that deploy improved planting stock, including varietal seedlings, shall use best scientific methods.	2.5.1) Program for appropriate research, testing evaluation and deployment of improved planting stock, including varietal seedlings.	The Tree Improvement Branch has programs in place to ensure the use of the most genetically superior seed available. Tree Improvement Branch's core business functions undertake to both protect (protect, manage and improve) public land genetic assets, and to set the required standards for forest practices influencing these genetic assets. Tree Improvement Branch is not involved in any genetic engineering, gene insertion, gene splicing or biotechnology that results in genetically modified organisms. In keeping with the broad stewardship responsibilities of the Ministry, the Branch has ensured that no genetically modified tree seed has been registered or used in operational forest planting on Crown Land in British Columbia. The Chief Foresters Standards for Seed Use regulate the use of varietal seedlings (i.e. clones, vegetatively reproduced) - according to these Standards hybrid poplar is the only varietal seedlings allowed for planting on Crown land, BCTS does not currently plant hybrid poplar, however the option is available to BCTS for future use.		http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hti/index.htm	BC Tree Improvement Branch (management of seed use on Crown Land)
Objective 3: PROTECTION AND MAINTENANCE OF WATER RESOURCES: To protect the water quality of rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and other water bodies through meeting or exceeding best management practices.	3.1) Program Participants shall meet or exceed all applicable federal, provincial, state and local water quality laws, and meet or exceed best management practices developed under Canadian or U.S. Environmental Protection Agency-approved water quality programs.	3.1.1) Program to implement federal, state or provincial best management practices during all phases of management activities. 3.1.2) Contract provisions that specify conformance to best management practices.	Conformance is achieved through the BCTS EMS program, Forest Stewardship Plans, TSL and contract documents and through compliance / conformance monitoring of site plans and project plans (i.e. harvest plan, road and bridge design, etc.). Best management practices (BMPs) for water quality are incorporated in BCTS EMS Environmental Field Procedures (EFPs), which are enforced through the TSL, Schedule D. Site specific requirements are specified in the plans which form part of the contract/TSL package and are reviewed during the pre-work meeting. Additional information may be provided in project plans. Conformance to site and project plans is inspected during EMS inspections.		Forest Stewardship Plans Site and project plans TSL and Contract documents BCTS EMS Program BCTS EMS Environmental Field Procedures (EFPs), Pre-Work and Inspection Checklists, site plans, project plans	

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		3.1.3) Monitoring of overall best management practices implementation.	Best management practices for water quality are specified in the FSP and Environmental Field Procedures (EFPs) in the EMS Program. Objectives and targets for water management are also specified in BA Environmental Management Programs (EMPs). Clauses can be written into the TSL documents and major works contracts to provide the TSL holder or major works contractor with applicable BMP information. The overall condition of water bodies is observed during EMS inspections to ensure compliance/conformance with legal and other requirements.		FSP Results and Strategies for Water EMS EFPs 04-08, BA EMPs	
	3.2) Program Participants shall implement water, wetland and riparian protection measures based on soil type, terrain, vegetation, ecological function, harvesting system, state best management practices (BMPs), provincial guidelines and other applicable factors.	3.2.1) Program addressing management and protection of rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands, other water bodies and riparian areas during all phases of management, including the layout and construction of roads and skid trails to maintain water reach, flow and quality.	Criteria for carrying out activities in and around steams, wetlands and riparian zones are specified in the FSP. Stand level criteria are then inserted into site and project plans. EOPs and EFPs provide additional procedures to be followed in the field. EMS harvest and road inspections monitor operations for consistency with requirements. Watershed level criteria are monitored through calculation of Equivalent Clearcut Area and Road Density Analyses, where these have been identified as risk indicators.		Forest Stewardship Plan Site and project plans EMS EFPs 04-08, EOPs 01-03	
		3.2.2) Mapping of rivers, streams, lakes, and other water bodies as specified in state or provincial best management practices and, where appropriate, identification on the ground.	The location of all streams, lakes and other significant water bodies located in the vicinity of engineered blocks and roads are identified during field layout, and are shown on site and project plan maps. These maps form part of the TSL and road construction contract package. Riparian reserve zones are marked in the field for all road stream crossings and are discussed at the EMS pre-work meeting to avoid accidental encroachment.		Site and project plan maps	

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		<p>3.2.3) Documentation and implementation of plans to manage and protect rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands, other water bodies and riparian areas.</p>	<p>Management requirements relating to the management and protection of streams, lakes, wetlands, other water bodies and riparian areas are set in legislation, and the FSP outlines associated results and strategies. Streams, lakes wetlands, other significant water bodies and riparian areas are required to be classified and shown on project/road construction plan maps. Specific management requirements relating to each water body are detailed in site and project plans. These plans and maps form part of the TSL or road construction contract package, and specific clauses are included within both the TSL and road construction contracts addressing riparian management requirements. Riparian reserve zones are marked in the field and are discussed at the EMS pre-work conference to avoid accidental encroachment. EMS harvest and road inspections monitor consistency with plans and maps.</p>		<p>FSP Site and project plans (including associated maps) EMS EFPs 04-06, EOPs 01-03</p>	
		<p>3.2.4) Plans that address wet-weather events in order to maintain water quality (e.g., forest inventory systems, wet-weather tracts, definitions of acceptable operating conditions).</p>	<p>Where applicable, Rainfall Shutdown Guidelines are provided to Licensees and Contractors. LPCs are responsible to have an Environmental Emergency Response Plan in place which is monitored by BCTS staff. The EMS program and contracts contain measures that are to be taken in the event of non-conformance (notices to comply and stop work orders) and includes stop-work criteria where there is potential for environmental damage.</p>		<p>Rainfall Shutdown Guideline document (where applicable) Environmental Emergency Response Plan EMS - EFP 01</p>	<p>LPCs (eERPs)</p>

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Objective 4: CONSERVATION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY: To manage the quality and distribution of wildlife habitats and contribute to the conservation of biological diversity by developing and implementing stand- and landscape-level measures that promote a diversity of types of habitat and successional stages, and conservation of forest plants and animals, including aquatic species, as well as threatened and endangered species, Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value, old-growth forests and ecologically important sites.	4.1) Program Participants shall conserve biological diversity.	4.1.1) Program to incorporate the conservation of native biological diversity, including species, wildlife habitats, and ecological community types at stand and landscape levels.	BCTS currently manages and promotes the conservation of biological diversity at the landscape-level and stand level by managing its activities consistent with applicable government direction. Examples of government direction for management of landscape level biodiversity are: seral requirements (including spatial and non-spatial approaches for addressing old growth/old seral); Ungulate Winter Ranges, Wildlife Habitat Areas, Aspatial Old Growth Biodiversity Orders, and the associated General Wildlife Measures; Wildlife Habitat Features). Patch size and connectivity are managed for in accordance with FPPR sec. 64 and 65. Examples of government direction for management of stand-level biodiversity are establishment of wildlife tree retention areas, riparian reserves on streams & wetlands, and stand management of wildlife habitats. In addition, BAs manage Coarse Woody Debris in compliance with requirements in regulation and follow Chief Forester guidance for Coarse Woody Debris. Applicable results and strategies are incorporated into the site plan. Critical conditions of the Site plan are incorporated into the TSL , contract documents. EMS harvest and road inspections monitor consistency with the site plan.		Forest Stewardship Plans Identified Wildlife Management Strategy (IWMS) Procedures for Managing Identified Wildlife http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/SLRP/ http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/slrp/policies-guides/old-growth/Old_Growth_Order_May18th_FINAL.pdf	BC Provincial Ministries (land use orders)
		4.1.2) Development of criteria and implementation of practices, as guided by regionally-based appropriate best scientific information, to retain stand-level wildlife habitat elements such as snags, stumps, mast trees, down woody debris, den trees, and nest trees.	Wildlife Tree Retention Areas (WTRAs) are identified & mapped and are used to protect den and nest trees and provide security cover and shelter for ungulates and other species (bats, frogs, salamanders, rare plants, etc.). WTRAs are intended to include ecological anchor points for multiple values where practicable. FSPs contain result and strategies for maintaining Wildlife Tree Retention Area in blocks and TSLs. The results and strategies are commitments to % of area that will be maintained in WTRA and this is documented in Site Plan. Retention of coarse woody debris is required through legislation and requirements are achieved in BAs.		FSP Objective for FPPR Sec. 9 - Wildlife & Biodiversity at the Landscape Level FS-45D Final Block Inspection Report Site Plan	

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		<p>4.1.3) Document diversity of forest cover types and age or size classes at the individual ownership or forest tenure level, and where credible data are available, at the landscape scale. Working individually or collaboratively to support diversity of native forest cover types and age or size classes that enhance biological diversity at the landscape scale.</p>	<p>The Province conducts Timber Supply Reviews (TSRs) and Vegetation Resources Inventories (VRIs) that collect forest cover type, age, height, and habitat information. In addition the BEC system provides information in ecosystem type. This information is interpreted and used in the Timber Supply Review process and to identify Old Growth Management Areas, Ungulate Winter Ranges, Wildlife Habitat Areas, riparian reserves, etc. BCTS considers this information in planning and managing harvesting activities to enhance biological diversity at the landscape scale.</p>		<p>FSPs TSRs VRIs Patch Size and Seral Stage Analysis Reports (where available)</p>	<p>BC Provincial Ministries</p>
		<p>4.1.4) Program Participants shall participate in or incorporate the results of state, provincial, or regional conservation planning and priority-setting efforts to conserve biological diversity and consider these efforts in forest management planning. Examples of credible priority-setting efforts include state wildlife action plans, state forest action plans, relevant habitat conservation plans or provincial wildlife recovery plans.</p>	<p>BCTS reviews and provides comment, as appropriate, on proposed land use orders during consultation periods. BCTS also participates in regional land use planning initiatives, provincial wildlife recovery plans, TSRs, etc.</p>		<p>Land Use Plans Landscape Unit Plans Provincial Non-Spatial Old Growth Order</p>	<p>BC Provincial Ministries (land use orders, wildlife recovery plans)</p>
		<p>4.1.5) Program to address conservation of known sites with viable occurrences of significant species of concern.</p>	<p>Wildlife Habitat Areas and Ungulate Winter ranges have been established across the Province to conserve habitat for multiple species. Location of WHAs is carried out by the provincial and federal environment ministries. WHAs and UWRs are spatially mapped and can be referenced using GIS before harvest development activities occur. Species at risk are discussed during pre works with contractors and licensees. BAs have developed guidance and implementation documents (or have consulted Qualified Professionals to provide management strategies) and training packages for Species at Risk. These inform Management Strategies for Species at Risk where there is evidence or probability of impacting a SAR due to forest management activity.</p>		<p>FSP BA SAR protocols BA SAR training package Site and project plans</p>	<p>BC Ministry of Environment and Federal Ministry of Environment (WHA location)</p>

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		<p>4.1.6) Identification and protection of non-forested wetlands, including bogs, fens and marshes, and vernal pools of ecological significance.</p>	<p>Section 48 of the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR) specifies the wetland riparian classification system used by BCTS and the related management zone minimum widths that apply to each classification. The FSP outlines associated results and strategies that will be applied at the site level. In the course of fieldwork, wetlands are identified, classified and shown on site and project plan maps. A qualified forest professional develops site specific management requirements relating to wetlands and these are detailed in the Block and Road Site Plans and form part of the project plan(s). Project plans and associated maps form part of the TSL and road construction contract package and specific clauses are included within both the TSL and road construction contracts addressing wetland management requirements. Wetlands that are too small to meet the classification requirements outlined in the FPPR may still be identified during block and road layout as ecologically significant and requiring specific management, based on the judgement of the qualified professionals involved in preparing the site and project plans.</p>		<p>FSP Site and project plans (including associated maps) Road Layout and Design EMS EFPs 03-06, EOPs 01-03</p>	
		<p>4.1.7) Participation in programs and demonstration of activities as appropriate to limit the introduction, spread and impact of invasive exotic plants and animals that directly threaten or are likely to threaten native plant and animal communities.</p>	<p>BCTS Business Areas participate in programs, where available, to limit the introduction, spread and impact of invasive exotic plants and animals that directly threaten or are likely to threaten native plant and animal communities. Business Area FSPs contain specific measures to mitigate the introduction, spread and impact of invasive plants. Vegetation seeding to limit or prevent soil erosion utilizes only seed mixes that are certified and do not contain invasive or damaging species.</p>		<p>FPPR Sec. 17 Forest Stewardship Plans</p>	
		<p>4.1.8) Consider the role of natural disturbances, including the use of prescribed or natural fire where appropriate, and forest health threats in relation to biological diversity when developing forest management plans.</p>	<p>At present, prescribed fire is considered an appropriate management tool in some BAs but not all. BAs that use prescribed fire, primarily use it as a tool for hazard abatement, ecosystem restoration and site preparation for silviculture. At the preharvest stage, the site plan prescribes fire, as required. Post harvest, BCTS completes plantability surveys and fire hazard assessments before a burn is planned. If required, a burn plan is developed for approval by the BC Wildfire Service.</p>			<p>BC Wildfire Service (burn plan approval)</p>

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	<p>4.2) Program Participants shall protect threatened and endangered species, Forests with Exceptional Conservation Values (FECV) and old-growth forests.</p>	<p>4.2.1) Program to protect threatened and endangered species.</p>	<p>BAs have developed guidance & implementation documents and training packages for Species at Risk (SAR) management. These documents inform management strategies for SAR where there is evidence or probability of impacting a SAR due to forest management activity. BA's consult Qualified Professionals as necessary to support management programs for SAR.</p>		<p>FSP BA SAR protocols BA SAR training package Site and project plans</p>	
<p>4.2.2) Program to locate and protect known sites of flora and fauna associated with viable occurrences of critically imperiled and imperiled species and communities also known as Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value. Plans for protection may be developed independently or collaboratively, and may include Program Participant management, cooperation with other stakeholders, or use of easements, conservation land sales, exchanges, or other conservation strategies.</p>		<p>Wildlife Habitat Areas and Ungulate Winter ranges have been established across the Province to conserve habitat for multiple species. Location of WHAs is carried out by the provincial and federal environment ministries. WHAs and UWRs are spatially mapped and can be referenced using GIS before harvest development activities occur. Species at risk are discussed during pre-works with contractors and licensees. BAs have developed guidance and implementation documents (or have consulted Qualified Professionals to provide management strategies) and training packages for Species at Risk. These inform Management Strategies for Species at Risk where there is evidence or probability of impacting a SAR due to forest management activity.</p>		<p>FSP BA SAR protocols BA SAR training package Site and project plans</p>	<p>BC Ministry of Environment (Orders under the Government Actions Regulation and Land Act Objectives Regulation) and Federal Ministry of Environment</p>	
<p>4.2.3) Support of and participation in plans or programs for the conservation of old-growth forests in the region of ownership or forest tenure.</p>		<p>Ministerial Orders and Higher Level Plans establish Old Growth Management Area objectives and locations and these are reflected in FSPs. Harvesting is restricted in these areas except under specific circumstances (e.g. for forest health reasons). Where old growth is not addressed spatially, BCTS follows the Provincial Non-Spatial Old Growth Order by reflecting the order in FSPs.</p>			<p>BC Ministry of Environment (Orders under the Government Actions Regulation and Land Act Objectives Regulation) and Federal Ministry of Environment</p>	

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	<p>4.3) Program Participants shall manage ecologically important sites in a manner that takes into account their unique qualities.</p>	<p>4.3.1) Use of information such as existing natural heritage data or expert advice in identifying or selecting ecologically important sites for protection.</p>	<p>Special sites of ecological significance (e.g. Parks, OGMA's) are protected by various Federal and Provincial legislation. Stakeholder referrals and other processes are in place to support the identification and management of special sites. Known sites that are important for ecological values are identified within FSP's. FSP's outline practices to be followed if potentially significant sites are found. Experts are engaged to complete assessments as required. Findings by experts and QPs are incorporated into the site plan to ensure conservation of these areas. See BCTS EMS Program (i.e. EOPs, EFPs, checklists) for specific planning considerations for cutblocks and roads.</p>		<p>Forest Stewardship Plans Site and project plans Karst mapping BA records of information sharing with stakeholders Land Use Plans. B.C. Conservation Data Centre</p>	
		<p>4.3.2) Appropriate mapping, cataloging and management of identified ecologically important sites.</p>	<p>Special sites of ecological significance are shown on map data bases maintained by Provincial Ministries. BCTS has online access to these maps. FSPs provide a detailed process to be followed if sites of potential significance are identified during operational planning or field reconnaissance. Where applicable, Karst topography is mapped to aid in managing access and developing harvesting plans and sensitive geological sites such as caves are mapped as reserves. Details for the management of identified special sites is included in site and project plans, EFPs, and EOPs.</p>		<p>FSPs Site and project plans EMS - EFPs and EOPs Karst GAR orders</p>	<p>BC Provincial Ministries (map data bases)</p>

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	<p>4.4) Program Participants shall apply knowledge gained through research, science, technology and field experience to manage wildlife habitat and contribute to the conservation of biological diversity.</p>	<p>4.4.1) Collection of information on Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value and other biodiversity related data through forest inventory processes, mapping or participation in external programs, such as NatureServe, state or provincial heritage programs, or other credible systems. Such participation may include providing non-proprietary scientific information, time and assistance by staff, or in-kind or direct financial support.</p>	<p>Collection of information on critically imperilled or imperilled species and communities and other biodiversity related data is conducted by the Ministry of Environment. At the landscape level, habitats that require management for biodiversity objectives are identified and mapped. At the stand level data collection is carried out to determine the forest cover types to be managed and any identifiable wildlife habitats or ecological communities that may be of concern or require special management. Communication with First Nations is used to identify special plant communities of cultural significance. Harvest planning considers information from all of the above sources to address sensitive areas and plant species. The Province collects forest inventory data that includes forest cover type, age, height, and habitat information. Current Vegetation Resource Inventories (VRIs) are maintained across all timber supply areas and Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping (TEM) and Predictive Ecosystem Mapping (PEM) are conducted where ecosystem mapping is required to enable ecosystem based management or for other purposes as determined by provincial agencies.</p>		<p>FSPs EMS Species At Risk management strategies in site and project plans</p>	<p>BC Ministry of Environment (data collection for species, communities, biodiversity)</p>

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		<p>4.4.2) A methodology to incorporate research results and field applications of biodiversity and ecosystem research into forest management decisions.</p>	<p>BCTS Staff and layout contractors are informed of biodiversity and ecosystem research results through committees, field tours, workshops and technical reports prepared by the provincial Forest Science Program, FREP, and FORREX. BCTS also contracts expertise as required to allow the latest research to be incorporated into management decisions. In April of 2013, the BCTS Provincial Planning Working Group produced the Species and Ecosystems of Management Concern Management Guide as a suggested resource for Business Areas to utilize as well. BCTS Staff incorporate recommendations from research into operational field practices through standard operating procedures and other written direction given to layout contractors. Layout contractors incorporate recommendations from research into operational field practices through site and project plans. Plans are checked by BCTS staff for to ensure conformance to BCTS FSPs, BMPs, etc. prior to implementation. BCTS inspections document if plan and other legislative, contractual etc. requirements are met. FREP assesses the effectiveness of forest and range legislation in achieving stewardship objectives and communicates that information to enhance the knowledge of resource professionals.</p>		<p>http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/forsci/ http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/frep/ http://www.forrex.org</p>	
<p>Objective 5: MANAGEMENT OF VISUAL QUALITY AND RECREATIONAL BENEFITS: To manage the visual impact of forest operations and provide recreational opportunities for the public.</p>	<p>5.1) Program Participants shall manage the impact of harvesting on visual quality.</p>	<p>5.1.1) Program to address visual quality management.</p>	<p>Known scenic areas with associated visual quality objectives have been established under GAR Orders in some Forest Districts. BCTS is committed, through FSPs, to manage for visual quality within known scenic areas and uses Visual Impact Assessments (VIA) and Visual Assessment Packages (VAP) as tools to achieve this. All blocks and roads within known scenic areas are designed and engineered in accordance with the visual quality objective for the area. The Site Plan incorporates the results of the VIA and VAP. The VIA and VAP reports usually include retention requirements that are included in TSL document. EMS Harvest Inspection Report contains operational check that retention objectives have been met.</p>		<p>FSP Result or Strategy for FPPR Sec. 9.2 Site Plans including VIA and VAP assessments Cengea Forest Resources database</p>	

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		<p>5.1.2) Incorporation of aesthetic considerations in harvesting, road, landing design and management, and other management activities where visual impacts are a concern.</p>	<p>Known scenic areas with associated visual quality objectives have been established under GAR Orders in some Forest Districts. BCTS is committed, through FSPs, to manage for visual quality within known scenic areas and uses Visual Impact Assessments (VIA) and Visual Assessment Packages (VAP) as tools to achieve this. All blocks and roads within known scenic areas are designed and engineered in accordance with the visual quality objective for the area. The Site Plan incorporates the results of the VIA and VAP. The VIA and VAP reports usually include retention requirements that are included in TSL document, EMS Harvest Inspection Report contains operational check that Specific Conditions of the TSL have been followed.</p>		<p>FSP Result or Strategy for FPPR Sec. 9.2 Site Plans including VIA and VAP assessments Cengea Forest Resources database</p>	
	<p>5.2) Program Participants shall manage the size, shape and placement of clearcut harvests.</p>	<p>5.2.1) Average size of clearcut harvest does not exceed 120 acres (50 hectares), except when necessary to meet regulatory requirements, achieve ecological objectives or to respond to forest health emergencies or other natural catastrophes.</p>	<p>FPPR s. 64 specifies maximum cutblock sizes on Crown Land: 40 ha. for the Coast Region and some Southern Interior Region Districts, and 60ha. for the Northern Interior Region and some Southern Interior Districts. Exceptions to FPPR s. 64 are possible for addressing forest health, windthrow, and fire issues and for achieving Natural Disturbance Type patch size targets. Where applicable, higher level plans also contain provisions that may allow for cutblocks larger than the specified limits.</p>		<p>FPPR s. 64 Forest Stewardship Plans Higher Level Plan Orders (where applicable) Site and project plans Cengea Forest Resources</p>	<p>BC Provincial Ministries (maximum cutblock size requirements)</p>
		<p>5.2.2) Documentation through internal records of clearcut size and the process for calculating average size.</p>	<p>The Cengea Forest Resources data base contains the gross and net areas of cutblocks. Reports may be generated to display these parameters and averages calculated. The annual progress report submitted to SFI contains information on average size of clearcut harvest areas. Information can also be gathered from Arc GIS and Patch Size Analysis. The methodology for computing the average clearcut size is available in the SFI Progress Report BCTS guidance.</p>		<p>CENGEA Forest Resources SFI Progress Report BCTS Guidance Documents</p>	<p>Certification Officer (SFI Progress Report BCTS guidance)</p>

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	<p>5.3) Program Participants shall adopt a green-up requirement or alternative methods that provide for visual quality.</p>	<p>5.3.1) Program implementing the green-up requirements or alternative methods.</p>	<p>Green-up and adjacency requirements are established by legislation and land use plans (where available). Green-up is applicable in Known Scenic Areas and is addressed in FSPs for these areas. Thresholds and targets are used to determine whether or not harvesting may proceed in known scenic areas or whether patch size and seral stage requirements can be met (aggregated areas of adjoining cutblocks of similar attributes e.g. seral stage). When a proposed road or harvest area requires visual management, a visual impact assessment is completed, which requires green-up as an input. The Visual Impact Assessment Guidebook provides procedures for conducting green-up assessments. The Site Plan incorporates the results of Visual Impact Assessments and Visual Assessment Packages, the reports from these assessments usually include retention requirements that are included in TSL documents and project plans. EMS Harvest Inspection Reports contain operational check that Specific Conditions of the TSL have been followed.</p>		<p>RESULTS and Cengea Forest Resources databases Visual Impact Assessment Visual Assessment Package Site and project plans</p>	<p>BC Provincial Ministries (green-up and adjacency requirements, Visual Impact Assessment Guidebook).</p>
<p>5.3.2) Harvest area tracking system to demonstrate conformance with the green-up requirement or alternative methods.</p>		<p>The Cengea Forest - Resources data base and the Provincial RESULTS data base track green-up (forest cover and free-growing) information gathered from field surveys.</p>		<p>Green-up surveys RESULTS and Cengea Forest Resources databases Visual Impact Assessment</p>		
<p>5.3.3) Trees in clearcut harvest areas are at least 3 years old or 5 feet (1.5 meters) high at the desired level of stocking before adjacent areas are clearcut, or as appropriate to address operational and economic considerations, alternative methods to reach the performance measure are utilized by the Program Participant.</p>		<p>As per Section 65 of the FPPR, 75% of the net area to be reforested must have the tallest 10% of the trees on the area a minimum of 3 meters (9.84 feet) in height and the area stocked with preferred or acceptable trees as per the approved stocking standards in the FSP. Higher level plans may contain provisions for green up of 1.3 meters in enhanced forestry zones.</p>		<p>Silviculture Surveys Forest Stewardship Plan Higher Level Plan Orders (where applicable)</p>	<p>BC Provincial Ministries (green-up and adjacency requirements)</p>	

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	5.4) Program Participants shall support and promote recreational opportunities for the public.	5.4.1) Provide recreational opportunities for the public, where consistent with forest management objectives.	BCTS operates on Crown land and recreational opportunities for the public on these lands are managed by the Province. FSPs set out any recreation related results and strategies that BCTS will apply to forestry activities. Site Plans address the applicable recreation results and strategies to be applied at the site level. BCTS BAs carry out various operational activities that directly or indirectly support recreation opportunities (i.e. access construction and maintenance, trail cleaning, trail re-marking, harvest avoidance, etc.) and may work with recreation stakeholders to prevent or mitigate any impacts on recreation opportunities by BCTS activities.		FSPs Site Plans BA records of information sharing with stakeholders http://www.sitesandtrailsbc.ca/	Provincial recreation sites and trails program (recreation opportunities on Crown Land)
Objective 6: PROTECTION OF SPECIAL SITES: To manage lands that are geologically, or culturally important in a manner that takes into account their unique qualities.	6.1) Program Participants shall identify special sites and manage them in a manner appropriate for their unique features.	6.1.1) Use of information such as existing natural heritage data, expert advice or stakeholder consultation in identifying or selecting sites for protection.	Special sites of geological or historical significance (e.g. Parks, Rec sites, culturally important sites and heritage resources and features) are protected by various Federal and Provincial legislation. Culturally significant sites are protected by the Heritage Conservation Act (for sites pre-1846) and provincial legislation. Stakeholder referrals and other processes are in place to support the identification and management of special sites. Known sites that are important for cultural and geological values are identified within FSP's. FSPs outline practices to be followed if potentially significant sites, such as berry picking areas or areas containing cedar for cultural use, are found. Experts are engaged to complete assessments as required. Findings by experts and QPs are incorporated into the site and project plan to provide for the conservation of these areas. See BCTS EMS Program (i.e. EOPs, EFPs, checklists) for specific planning considerations for cutblocks and roads.		Forest Stewardship Plans Project plans Karst mapping Terrain Assessments BA records of information sharing with stakeholders Land Use Plans. B.C. Conservation Data Centre, Regional S.O.C. Teams and EthnoHistoric Reports	BC Provincial Ministries (map data bases, etc.)

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		6.1.2) Appropriate mapping, cataloguing, and management of identified special sites.	Special sites of ecological, geological or historical significance are shown on map data bases maintained by Provincial Ministries. BCTS has online access to these maps. FSPs provide a detailed process to be followed if sites of potential significance are identified during operational planning or field reconnaissance. Where applicable, Karst topography is mapped to aid in managing access and developing harvesting plans and sensitive geological sites such as caves are mapped as reserves. Terrain maps are used and where required BAs hire contractors to complete terrain field assessments of blocks being engineered. Details for the management of identified special sites is included in site plans, EFPs, and EOPs.		FSPs Site and project plans EMS - EFPs and EOPs Terrain Assessments Karst GAR orders Handover checklist Local Species at risk procedures and Local Species at Risk Training	BC Provincial Ministries (map data bases, etc.)
Objective 7: EFFICIENT USE OF FIBER RESOURCES: To minimize waste and ensure the efficient use of fiber resources.	7.1) Program Participants shall employ appropriate forest harvesting technology and in-woods manufacturing processes and practices to minimize waste and ensure efficient utilization of harvested trees, where consistent with other SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard objectives.	7.1.1) Program or monitoring system to ensure efficient utilization, which may include provisions to ensure: a) management of harvest residue (e.g. slash, limbs, tops) considers economic, social and environmental factors (e.g. organic and nutrient value to future forests and the potential of increased fuels build-up) and other utilization needs; b) training or incentives to encourage loggers to enhance utilization; c) exploration of markets for underutilized species and low-grade wood and alternative markets (e.g. bioenergy markets); or	Timber Sale Licence (TSL) documents describe requirements for waste assessment. Timber merchantability specifications are provided in the Provincial Logging Residue and Waste Measurement Procedures Manual and, where required under the TSL document, blocks are waste surveyed at the completion of harvest and any waste in excess of the maximum allowable is billed to the license holder. Innovative Timber Sale Licences (ITSLs) encourage higher levels of utilization by requiring that bidders pay for all volume from the cruise and do not have requirements for waste surveys. TSL holders are also required to comply with coarse woody debris retention requirements specified in FPPR Section 68 and applicable FSP results and strategies, as well as Wildfire Act responsibilities in relation to management of harvest residue. EMS harvest inspections ensure conformance with all requirements. BAs communicate periodically with licensees and other clients to gather market information for the development of Timber Sale Schedules. BCTS is collaborating with mill managers to develop opportunities to use fibre below existing utilization standards. BCTS is facilitating the use of residual biomass through innovative tenuring processes. BCTS builds some roads into TSLs prior to auction, thereby increasing the value of that sale, which could lead to otherwise uneconomic wood being more attractive to bidders. EMS harvest inspectors ensure that waste assessments have been completed.		http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hva/manuals/rwprocedures.htm http://www.bclaws.ca/Recon/document/ID/freeside/00_04031_01 BC Wildfire Act and Regulations (Harvest residue hazard assessment and abatement) Timber sale document EMS harvest inspection	BCTS Headquarters (TSL and ITSL documents) BC Wildfire Service (BC Wildfire Act and Regulations)

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		d) periodic inspections and reports noting utilization and product separation.				
Objective 8: RECOGNIZE AND RESPECT INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RIGHTS: To recognize and respect Indigenous Peoples' rights and traditional knowledge.	8.1) Program Participants shall recognize and respect Indigenous Peoples' rights.	8.1.1) Program Participants will provide a written policy acknowledging a commitment to recognize and respect the rights of Indigenous Peoples.	The BC Timber Sales Sustainable Forest Management Policy includes a commitment to respect and recognize Aboriginal title and rights, and treaty rights.		http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/forestCertification/SFM_Policy.pdf	BCTS Executive Director(s) (SFM Policy)
	8.2) Program Participants with forest management responsibilities on public lands shall confer with affected Indigenous Peoples with respect to sustainable forest management practices.	8.2.1) Program that includes communicating with affected Indigenous Peoples to enable Program Participants to: a. understand and respect traditional forest-related knowledge; b. identify and protect spiritually, historically, or culturally important sites; c. address the use of non-timber forest products of value to Indigenous Peoples in areas where Program Participants have management responsibilities on public lands; and	BAs are responsible for information sharing and consultation with local First Nations, consistent with the Crown's obligations, current case law, and informed by government policy and procedures. Records of First Nations information sharing and consultation undertaken by BCTS are maintained by BAs for each First Nation. a) BAs work with others in government to communicate and become aware of aboriginal interests and concerns. Proposed BCTS forest operations are referred to applicable First Nations in keeping with the Crown's duty to consult and as committed to in the FSP. A request for additional information on aboriginal interests which BCTS operations have the potential to impact is made upon referral.		Forest Planning and Practices Regulation of the Forest and Range Practices Act Forest Stewardship Plan - Cultural Heritage Resources results or strategies and other results/strategies for values of importance to First Nations TSL consultation packages EMS - EFPs Heritage Conservation Act Regional EthnoHistoric Reports Consultation Guide Consultative Areas Database Remote Access Archeological Data (RAAD) Provincial Archeological Report Library (PARL) Traditional Use Studies https://gww.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/teams/firstnation/relations/	BCTS Business Relations Officer (guidance to BAs re First Nations consultation)

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		and d. respond to Indigenous Peoples' inquiries and concerns received.	<p>b) The FSP provides results and strategies 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 (HCA)' . Other objectives for which Results and Strategies are written in an FSP also provide for management of values important to First Nations. The HCA encourages and facilitates the protection and conservation of heritage properties in BC. First Nations archaeological sites are addressed through the HCA. Management strategies are developed as necessary, considering the potential impacts to the identified interests from the proposed forest management activities and options to avoid or mitigate these impacts. The EMS Environmental Field Procedures (EFPs) require that operators stop work and contact their project supervisor and the BCTS representative if a previously unidentified resource feature, resource value (e.g. cultural) or sensitive area is found.</p> <p>c) Results and strategies for cultural heritage resources, including, e.g. berry picking sites and mushroom picking sites, are written into FSPs. Generally, interests are addressed using factors that include the availability of such sites and the degree of potential impact.</p> <p>d) Concerns and inquiries received are responded to as part of the referral process for information sharing and consultation.</p>		<p>ations/ http://cguide.nrs.gov.bc.ca/pdf%20and%20docx/Current/updated_procedures.pdf http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/topic.page?id=81CB3D169ECC4F1787D629B3E4B6FC99</p>	
	8.3) Program Participants are encouraged to communicate with and shall respond to local Indigenous Peoples with respect to sustainable forest management practices on their private lands.	8.3.1) Program Participants are aware of traditional forest-related knowledge, such as known cultural heritage sites, the use of wood in traditional buildings and crafts, and flora that may be used in cultural practices for food, ceremonies or medicine.	Note: BCTS operates on provincial crown forest lands. Private lands may be included in TSLs only if they are part of the area of a TFL in which BCTS has an apportioned volume. Through information sharing and consultation processes, (including those outlined in s. 8.2.1) traditional forest-related knowledge may be received from First Nations. Information may also be gained through Archaeological Impact Assessments and/or Preliminary Field Reconnaissance (AIA or PFR), cultural heritage resource surveys, Traditional Use Studies (TUS) and Ethnohistoric Reports (EHR).			

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		8.3.2) Respond to Indigenous Peoples' inquiries and concerns received.	Concerns and inquiries received are responded to as part of the referral process for information sharing and consultation outlined in section 8.2.1.			
Objective 9: LEGAL and REGULATORY COMPLIANCE: To comply with applicable federal, provincial, state, and local laws and regulations.	9.1) Program Participants shall comply with applicable federal, provincial, state and local forestry and related social and environmental laws and regulations.	9.1.1) Access to relevant laws and regulations in appropriate locations.	All staff have access to pertinent laws and regulations, including environmental and social laws. The Quickscribe 'Envirofor' service is the primary online reference for the legal requirements. The Ministry Intranet site also has links to legislation and regulations.		http://www.quickscribe.bc.ca/ http://gww.for.gov.bc.ca/mof/statutes.htm	
		9.1.2) System to achieve compliance with applicable federal, provincial, state or local laws and regulations.	BCTS complies with applicable federal, provincial, and local legislation through the application of BA operational planning processes and the BCTS EMS (environmental aspects, monitoring and measuring, audit program, management review, etc.).		http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/forestCertification/ba-certification.htm	
		9.1.3) Demonstration of commitment to legal compliance through available regulatory action information.	The BCTS EMS Environmental Policy and Sustainable Forest Management Policy include a commitment to complying with applicable legislation. The EMS program addresses compliance through pre-work meetings with clients and monitoring/inspections of client activities. Any issues of potential non-compliance are brought to the attention of appropriate government agencies and are tracked through the EMS issue tracking system (ITS) for the purposes of developing and implementing corrections and corrective actions. Forest activities are also monitored by government agencies such as the BC Compliance & Enforcement Branch, the BC Forest Practices Board and the Federal Department of Fisheries & Oceans. BCTS is advised by these agencies of any compliance issues, the issues are tracked and any weaknesses are addressed.		BCTS EMS Environmental Policy BCTS Sustainable Forest Management Policy http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/forestCertification/index.htm BCTS EMS issue tracking system (ITS)	BCTS Executive Director(s) (EMS and SFM Policies)

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	<p>9.2) Program Participants shall take appropriate steps to comply with all applicable social laws at the federal, provincial, state and local levels in the country in which the program participant operates.</p>	<p>9.2.1) Written policy demonstrating commitment to comply with social laws, such as those covering civil rights, equal employment opportunities, anti-discrimination and anti-harassment measures, workers' compensation, Indigenous Peoples' rights, workers' and communities' right to know, prevailing wages, workers' right to organize, and occupational health and safety.</p> <p>9.2.2) Forestry enterprises will respect the rights of workers and labour representatives in a manner that encompasses the intent of the International Labour Organization (ILO) core conventions.</p>	<p>The BCTS EMS Environmental Policy and Sustainable Forest Management Policy include a commitment to complying with applicable legislation. BCTS is part of the BC provincial government and must adhere to all federal and provincial legislation and policies. The BC Civil Rights Protection Act (civil rights), BC Human Rights Code (equal employment opportunities), Chapters 4 & 11 of the BC Public Service Agency Personnel Policy Manual (antidiscrimination, anti-harassment and Occupational Safety and Health), Constitution Act of Canada (Indigenous peoples rights), Worksafe BC (BCTS & LPC's must be registered), Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (workers and communities right to know), PEA and BCGEU collective agreements (prevailing wages), Labour Relations Code (workers right to organize).</p> <p>The BCTS Safety Policy, EMS Environmental Policy and the Sustainable Forest Management Policy include a commitment to complying with applicable legislation. BCTS contracts reference a linkage to employment standards and Worksafe BC.</p>		<p>http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/forestCertification/index.htm http://www.qp.gov.bc.ca/statreg/stat/C/96049_01.htm http://www.ag.gov.bc.ca/human-rights-protection/ http://www.bcpublicserviceagency.gov.bc.ca http://www.worksafebc.com/regulation_and_policy/default.asp http://www.qp.gov.bc.ca/statreg/stat/f/96165_01.htm http://www.pea.org/ http://www.bcgeu.ca/ http://www.qp.gov.bc.ca/statreg/stat/L/96244_01.htm</p>	<p>BCTS Executive Director(s) (EMS and SFM Policies)</p>
<p>Objective 10: FORESTRY RESEARCH, SCIENCE and TECHNOLOGY: To invest in forestry research, science and technology, upon which sustainable forest management decisions are based and broaden the awareness of climate change impacts on forests, wildlife and biological diversity.</p>	<p>10.1) Program Participants shall individually and/or through cooperative efforts involving SFI Implementation Committees, associations or other partners provide in-kind support or funding for forest research to improve forest health, productivity, and sustainable management of forest resources, and the environmental benefits and performance of forest products.</p>	<p>10.1.1) Financial or in-kind support of research to address questions of relevance in the region of operations. Examples could include, but are not limited to, areas of forest productivity, water quality, biodiversity, community issues or similar areas that build broader understanding of the benefits and impacts of forest management.</p>	<p>BCTS financially supports the provincial Forest Science Program. BCTS receives access through a Services Agreement to a variety of Research and Forest Stewardship professionals in the BEC program, ecological research, hydrologic sciences, geotechnical research, silviculture and soils research. BCTS is an active member of WCSIC and supports its forest research efforts. Water Quality and Genetic Resource Management initiatives are being addressed by other Ministry programs i.e. Forest and Range Evaluation Program (FREP) and Tree Improvement Program. BCTS has access to the results and reports from these programs. BCTS also funds development of Cengea Forest - Resources, a Forest Information Management System, and FPInnovations research. Several BC ministries are FORREX partners. The BC Forest Investment Account funds programs that support research such as tree improvement, forest inventory, etc. BC Forestry Innovation Investment (FII), which is financially supported by the Province, implements a comprehensive market development program.</p>		<p>http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/forsci/ http://www.wcsic.ca/ http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/frep/ http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hre/forgen/index.htm http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/HFP/future_forests/ https://fpinnovations.ca/Pages/home.aspx http://www.forrex.org http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hcp/fia/index.htm http://www.bcfii.ca/bc-forest-sector/</p>	<p>Certification Officer (WCSIC) BCTS HQ (research support, CENGEA, services agreements) FREP (water quality)</p>

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		10.1.2) Research on genetically engineered trees via forest tree biotechnology shall adhere to all applicable federal, state and provincial regulations and international protocols ratified by the United States and/or Canada depending on jurisdiction of management.	BCTS does not participate in research on or use genetically engineered trees at this time.			BC Tree Improvement Branch
	10.2) Program Participants shall - individually and/or, through cooperative efforts involving SFI Implementation Committees, associations or other partners - develop or use state, provincial or regional analyses in support of their sustainable forestry programs.	10.2.1) Participation - individually and/or through cooperative efforts involving SFI Implementation Committees and/or associations at the national, state, provincial or regional level, in the development or use of some of the following: a) regeneration assessments b) growth and drain assessments c) best management practices implementation and conformance d) biodiversity conservation information for family forest owners e) social, cultural or economic benefit assessments	BCTS participates in the Timber Supply Review (TSR) process which considers social, economic, and environmental factors in establishing a sustainable allowable annual cut for TSAs. TSR data packages include assumptions for harvesting, unsalvaged losses, silviculture, IRM, etc. At the provincial and regional levels, BCTS participates in various programs to promote expertise in forest health, the geosciences, and silviculture. BCTS also participates in regional initiatives to minimize the loss of forest productivity resulting from forest health issues that may affect sustainable forestry within BAs e.g. White Pine Blister Rust, Spruce Leader Weevil and areas of known root disease. BCTS is also an active participant of the WCSIC and supports its efforts.		http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hts/analysis.htm http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/topic.page?id=6221CAFD41244A8987DA4D7C7F414FB0 http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hre/pspdata/ http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hre/standman/ http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/index.htm	BC Provincial Ministries (TSRs, forest health, geosciences, silviculture) Certification Officer (WCSIC)
	10.3) Program Participants shall — individually and/or through cooperative efforts involving SFI Implementation Committees, associations or other	10.3.1) Where available, monitor information generated from regional climate models on long-term forest health, productivity and economic viability.	BCTS monitors information generated from regional climate change models as provided by the Future Forest Ecosystem Initiative and the Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium. BCTS also participates in Climate Change Adaptation and Forest Carbon Initiatives at the Provincial and Business Area level.		http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/mof/Climate_Change/ http://www.pacificclimate.org/ https://spc-flnr.gov.bc.ca/BCTS_PWG/default.aspx	Stewardship Policy Forester (BCTS Provincial Climate Change Action Plan)

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	associations or other partners - broaden the awareness of climate change impacts on forests, wildlife and biological diversity.	10.3.2) Program participants are knowledgeable about climate change impacts on wildlife, wildlife habitats and conservation of biological diversity through international, national, regional or local programs.	BCTS has developed a Provincial Climate Change Action Plan that identifies actions that will be taken to build BCTS adaptive capacity to address climate change, including the communication of climate change related impact information to BCTS staff.			
Objective 11: TRAINING and EDUCATION : To improve the implementation of sustainable forestry practices through appropriate training and education programs.	11.1) Program Participants shall require appropriate training of personnel and contractors so that they are competent to fulfill their responsibilities under the SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard.	11.1.1) Written statement of commitment to the SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard communicated throughout the organization, particularly to facility and woodland managers, fibre sourcing staff, and field foresters.	The SFMP text (Introduction) and SFM Policy clearly outline BCTS' commitment to Sustainable Forest Management. Training of staff (staff awareness), LPCs and posting of the SFM policy to BCTS provincial and BA websites and in BA offices communicates the policy.		BCTS provincial website	Certification Officer (SFM Policy, SFMP)
		11.1.2) Assignment and understanding of roles and responsibilities for achieving SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard objectives.	This SFI Roles and Responsibility matrix describes roles and responsibilities for achieving the SFI 2015-2019 Standard; these roles and responsibilities are communicated to responsible staff, contractors, licensees, as appropriate. EMS documents (e.g. EFPs, EOPs, etc.) communicate additional roles and procedures.		SFI Roles and Responsibility Matrix (R&R Matrix) EMS documents (e.g. EFPs, EOPs, etc.)	Certification Officer (R&R Matrix template, provincial EMS documents)
		11.1.3) Staff education and training sufficient to their roles and responsibilities.	Staff training takes place according to the EMS manual, and BCTS Staff Training Matrix. Training is documented for all staff. BAs provide training and information to staff through various means and also provide staff with access to the WCSIC and SFI websites, and SFI information on BCTS BA websites.		EMS Manual Staff training records WCSIC and SFI websites WCSIC Training Policy BCTS Staff Training Matrix	Certification Officer (Provincial EMS documents)
		11.1.4) Contractor education and training sufficient to their roles and responsibilities.	BCTS Licensee, Permittee and Contractor (LPC) training requirements are outlined in the EMS. LPC EMS/SFM awareness training is provided on-line. Additional information, consistent with the WCSIC Training Policy "Basic Training Requirements for logging contractors working for SFI Program Participants" is provided to LPCs at pre-work meetings. LPCs are required to train their crews as outlined in the BCTS LPC Training Matrix and to maintain training records.		LPC EMS/SFM Awareness Training https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/Forestcertification/LPC.htm LPC EMS training records. Table 008-1 LPC Training Matrix Western Canada SFI Implementation Committee (WCSIC) http://www.wcsic.ca/	Certification Officer (WCSIC)

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		<p>11.1.5) Program Participants shall have written agreements for the use of qualified logging professionals and/or certified logging professionals (where available) and/or wood producers that have completed training programs and are recognized as qualified logging professionals.</p>	<p>Under the terms of the TSL Schedule D, TSL holders are required to ensure that all persons working on the cutting authority area, the foreshore area and associated permit areas, including the Licensee's employees, agents, and contractors, achieve and maintain training in the BCTS EMS as specified in the "LPC Training Matrix" . This training is consistent with the WCSIC definition of qualified logging professional. In addition, all parties employing workers or subcontractors on BCTS TSLs or those directing the on-site activities of workers or subcontractors on TSLs must be SAFE Company certified and must be registered with Worksafe BC. BCTS confirms these certifications are in place prior to tenure or contract issuance. Mandatory training and certification is also in place for all tree fallers in British Columbia.</p>		<p>TSL Schedule D BCTS Safety Policy--ADM advisory letter to BCTS licensees http://www.bcforestsafe.org/ http://www.bcforestsafe.org/training/faller_certification.html Western Canada SFI Implementation Committee (WCSIC) http://www.wcsic.ca/ BCTS Safety Policy http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/safety/program.htm</p>	<p>TSL holders (employees, agents, and contractors, achieve and maintain training in the BCTS EMS).</p>
	<p>11.2) Program Participants shall work — individually and/or with SFI Implementation Committees, logging or forestry associations, or appropriate agencies or others in the forestry community — to foster improvement in the professionalism of wood producers.</p>	<p>11.2.1) Participation in or support of SFI Implementation Committees to establish criteria and identify delivery mechanisms for wood producer training courses and periodic continuing education that address:</p> <p>a) awareness of sustainable forestry principles and the SFI program</p> <p>b) best management practices, including streamside management and road construction, maintenance, and retirement</p> <p>c) reforestation, invasive exotic plants and animals, forest resource conservation, aesthetics and special sites</p> <p>d) awareness of responsibilities under the U.S. Endangered Species Act, the Canadian Species At Risk Act and other measures to protect wildlife habitat (e.g. Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value)</p>	<p>BCTS is a member of the Western Canada SFI Implementation Committee (WCSIC). The WCSIC has established a Training Policy for SFI Program Participants and Wood Producers, which includes "Basic Training Requirements for logging contractors working for SFI Program Participants". Information consistent with the Training Policy is provided by BCTS to TSL holders through LPC EMS/SFM awareness training and pre-work meetings.</p>		<p>http://www.wcsic.ca/</p>	<p>Certification Officer (WCSIC)</p>

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		<p>e) awareness of rare forested natural communities as identified by provincial or state agencies, or by credible organizations such as NatureServe and The Nature Conservancy</p> <p>f) logging safety</p> <p>g) U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and Canadian Centre for Occupational Health (COHS) regulations, wage and hour rules, and other provincial, state and local employment laws</p> <p>h) transportation issues</p> <p>i) business management</p> <p>j) public policy and outreach</p> <p>k) awareness of emerging technologies</p>				
		<p>11.2.2) The SFI Implementation Committee-approved wood producer training programs shall have a continuing education component with coursework that supports the current training programs, safety and the principles of sustainable forestry</p>	<p>The WCSIC Training Policy for SFI Program Participants and Wood Producers includes "Basic Training Requirements for logging contractors working for SFI Program Participants". The continuing education requirements of the indicator are addressed by BCTS by conducting pre-works as described in the EMS.</p>		<p>www.wcsic.ca</p>	<p>Certification Officer (WCSIC)</p>
		<p>11.2.3) Participation in or support of SFI Implementation Committees to establish criteria for recognition of logger certification programs, where they exist, that include:</p>	<p>Logger certification programs do not currently exist in British Columbia. BCTS will continue to support WCSIC regarding issues related to wood producer training and/or logger certification programs.</p>		<p>www.wcsic.ca</p>	<p>Certification Officer (WCSIC)</p>

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		<p>a) completion of SFI Implementation Committee recognized wood producer training programs and meeting continuing education requirements of the training program</p> <p>b) independent in-the-forest verification of conformance with the logger certification program standards</p> <p>c) compliance with all applicable laws and regulations including responsibilities under the U.S. Endangered Species Act, the Canadian Species at Risk Act and other measures to protect wildlife habitat</p> <p>d) use of best management practices to protect water quality</p> <p>e) logging safety</p> <p>f) compliance with acceptable silviculture and utilization standards</p> <p>g) aesthetic management techniques employed where applicable; and</p> <p>h) adherence to a management or harvest plan that is site specific and agreed to by the forest landowner.</p>				

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Objective 12: COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND LANDOWNER OUTREACH: To broaden the practice of sustainable forestry through public outreach, education, and involvement, and to support the efforts of SFI Implementation Committees.	12.1) Program Participants shall support and promote efforts by consulting foresters, state, provincial and federal agencies, state or local groups, professional societies, conservation organizations, Indigenous Peoples and governments, community groups, sporting organizations, labor, universities, extension agencies, the American Tree Farm System® and/or landowner cooperative programs to apply principles of sustainable forest management.	12.1.1) Support, including financial, for efforts of SFI Implementation Committees.	BCTS is a member of the Western Canada SFI Implementation Committee (WCSIC).		www.wcsic.ca	Certification Officer (WCSIC)
		12.1.2) Support, individually or collaboratively, education and outreach to forest landowners describing the importance of and providing implementation guidance on: a. best management practices; b. reforestation and afforestation; c. visual quality management; d. conservation objectives, such as critical wildlife habitat elements, biodiversity, threatened and endangered species, and Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value; e. management of harvest residue (e.g., slash, limbs, tops) that considers economic, social and environmental factors (e.g., organic and nutrient value to future forests) and other utilization needs; f. control of invasive exotic plants and animals; g. characteristics of special sites; and h. reduction of wildfire risk.	BCTS supports education and outreach to forest landowners through participation in WCSIC. As part of the WCSIC approach to outreach, several of the SFI Standard's objectives are promoted as key considerations for planning for land owners and land managers not currently certified as a SFI Program Participant, yet are still interested in applying aspects of sustainable forest management within their planning process. These include but are not limited to: reforestation, riparian management, soil conservation, wildlife management, visuals management and safety. Educational and informative material is also available on the main BCTS website. BAs may also participate in National Forest Week activities and local trade shows where educational material is distributed. Forest related literature is also available at the front counters in District offices. BA professionals are active participants in local Association of BC Forest Professionals public awareness activities. BAs also participate in local public advisory groups where appropriate.		http://www.wcsic.ca	Certification Officer (WCSIC)
		12.1.3) Participation in efforts to support or promote conservation of managed forests through voluntary market-based incentive programs such as current-use taxation programs, Forest Legacy Program or conservation easements.	BCTS supports these efforts through participation in WCSIC.		www.wcsic.ca	Certification Officer (WCSIC)
	12.2) Program Participants shall support and promote, at the state, provincial or other appropriate levels	12.2.1) Periodic educational opportunities promoting sustainable forestry, such as:	BCTS staff are available to participate in field tours with schools, groups or the public. Educational and informative material is available on the BCTS website and in District Offices. Information on wildlife habitat, endangered species and species at risk can be found		www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/ http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/conservationframework/	

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	other appropriate levels, mechanisms for public outreach, education and involvement related to sustainable forest management	a) field tours, seminars, websites, webinars or workshops b) educational trips c) self-guided forest management trails d) publication of articles, educational pamphlets or newsletters e) support for state, provincial and local forestry organizations and soil and water conservation districts.	endangered species and species at risk can be found on the Ministry of Environment website. BAs participate in local level public advisory groups where applicable.			
	12.3) Program Participants shall establish at the state, provincial or other appropriate levels, procedures to address concerns raised by loggers, consulting foresters, employees, unions, the public, or other Program Participants regarding practices that appear inconsistent with the SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard principles and objectives	12.3.1) Support for SICs (e.g. toll-free numbers and other efforts) to address concerns about apparent nonconforming practices. 12.3.2) Process to receive and respond to public inquiries. SFI Implementation Committees shall submit data annually to SFI Inc. regarding concerns received and responses.	BCTS BAs provide a link to the SFI Inconsistent Practices Reporting Protocol and Form on BA public websites. Certification Standards Officers (CSOs) and/or other BCTS staff receive and respond to public inquiries and keep records of this communication within the EMS. SFI Inc. notifies BAs directly of any comments received through the SFI Inconsistent Practices Reporting Form, and BCTS staff respond to the comments. The public also has access to Certification Public Comment Forms on the BCTS corporate and BA websites.		BCTS BA websites http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/forestCertification/ba-certification.htm BCTS provincial and BA websites: http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/BCTS/feedback/ems_commentform.htm?HBT	Certification Officer (WCSIC support) Certification Officer (WCSIC support, respond to BCTS corporate comments)
Objective 13: PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES: To participate and implement forest management on public lands	13.1) Program participants with forest management responsibilities on public lands shall participate in the development of public land planning and management processes	13.1.1) Involvement in public land planning and management activities with appropriate governmental entities and the public.	BCTS endeavours to participate in Strategic Land and Resource Planning (SLRP) process meetings, Timber Supply Area Steering Committee meetings, EBM working group meetings, etc., where active. This may also involve reviewing and commenting on proposed legal orders, as appropriate.		SLRP: http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/SLRP/	

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public lands.	management processes.	13.1.2) Appropriate contact with local stakeholders over forest management issues through state, federal, provincial or independent collaboration.	Public comment and appropriate contact is managed through the FSP and other BA review and comment procedures. This may involve participating in or conducting meetings and field trips with the public, government agencies, stakeholders and various groups as appropriate.		FSP	
Objective 14: COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC REPORTING: To increase transparency and to annually report progress on conformance with the SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard.	14.1) A Program Participant shall provide a summary audit report, prepared by the certification body, to SFI Inc. after the successful completion of certification, recertification, or surveillance audit to the SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard.	<p>14.1.1) The summary audit report submitted by the Program Participant (one copy must be in English), shall include, at a minimum</p> <p>a) a description of the audit process, objectives and scope</p> <p>b) a description of substitute indicators, if any, used in the audit and a rationale for each</p> <p>c) the name of the Program Participant that was audited, including its SFI representative</p> <p>d) a general description of the Program Participant's forestland included in the audit</p> <p>e) the name of the certification body and lead auditor (names of the audit team members, including technical experts may be included at the discretion of the audit team and Program Participant)</p> <p>f) the dates the audit was conducted and completed</p>	This performance measure will be achieved by the certification body with assistance from the Program Participant (BCTS). The report produced by the certification body will meet all of the indicators listed in this performance measure. BCTS requires that the certifier provide these summary audit reports to SFI Inc.			Certification Officer (Review External Auditor Summary Audit Report) External Auditor (Summary Audit Report)

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		g) a summary of the findings, including general descriptions of evidence of conformity and any non-conformities and corrective action plans to address them, opportunities for improvement, and exceptional practices; and h) the certification decision				
	14.2) Program Participants shall report annually to SFI Inc. on their conformance with the SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard	14.2.1) Prompt response to the SFI annual progress report survey.	This information is collected annually from BAs by the BCTS Certification Officer, who provides BA guidance and tools, collates the information into a corporate response in the SFI annual progress report survey.		Annual SFI Progress Report Survey	Certification Officer (provide BA guidance and tools, collate, submit, and file Provincial Annual Progress Reports)
		14.2.2) Record keeping for all the categories of information needed for SFI annual progress report surveys.	SFI annual progress report survey data is recorded and stored appropriately.		Cengea Forest Resource and RESULTS records BCTS Certification SharePoint site	Certification Officer (provide BA guidance and tools, collate, submit, and file Provincial Annual Progress Reports)
		14.2.3) Maintenance of copies of past survey reports to document progress and improvements to demonstrate conformance to the SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard.	SFI annual progress report survey reports are stored appropriately.		SFI main file at BCTS Business Areas BCTS Certification SharePoint site for provincial reports	Certification Officer (provide BA guidance and tools, collate, submit, and file Provincial Annual Progress Reports)
Objective 15: MANAGEMENT REVIEW AND CONTINUAL IMPROVEMENT. To promote continual improvement in the practice of	15.1) Program Participants shall establish a management review system to examine findings and progress in implementing the SFI 2015-2019 Forest	15.1.1) System to review commitments, programs and procedures to evaluate effectiveness.	The BCTS Provincial SFI management review supplement is used to compile and report on BCTS SFI performance. In addition, EMS monitoring and inspection, internal audits, management reviews, annual progress reports and C&E compliance reports are used to assess the achievement of commitments and to evaluate effectiveness.		Provincial Management Review minutes Internal and External audit reports	Certification Officer (Provincial level reporting) Provincial Management Review Committee

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sustainable forestry by conducting a management review and monitoring performance.	Management Standard, to make appropriate improvements in programs, and to inform their employees of changes.	15.1.2) System for collecting, reviewing, and reporting information to management regarding progress in achieving SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard objectives and performance measures.	BAs use databases (CENGEA Resources, HBS, CIMS, and RESULTS) and local data collection (e.g. # of trained loggers) for reporting information to management regarding progress in achieving SFI objectives and performance measures.		Management Review minutes	Certification Officer (Provincial level reporting) Provincial Management Review Committee
		15.1.3) Annual review of progress by management and determination of changes and improvements necessary to continually improve conformance to the SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard.	EMS and SFI Management Reviews are completed by BAs and provincially.		BA and Provincial EMS and SFI Management Review minutes	Certification Officer (Provincial level reporting) Provincial Management Review Committee