EBMWG Project Terms of Reference: DS04b

Project Name Old Growth Reserve Design Pilot

Program Area Decision Support
Element Decision Support
Project No. DS04b

Related Projects DS04 – Old Growth Reserves Co-location Project
DS01 – Data Access & Management
EI01 – 2nd Old Growth Workshop
EI02 – Focal Species Risk Assessment and Habitat Mapping

Start Date June 2008
Completion Date March 2009

Overview

This project is intended to provide, at landscape, watershed and stand scales, a ground-truthed (and/or higher degree of accuracy and spatial resolution?) landscape level reserve design to inform the placement of OGMAS and/or WHAs. This in turn may inform:

- the further development of detailed strategic plans (DSPs) by each First Nation,
- G2G discussions between First Nations and the Province related to the harmonization of DSPs and the full implementation of EBM.
- Ongoing OGMA and/or WHA planning processes

The project will include several pilots including a representative LU or LU(s) in both the north coast and the central/south coast. As appropriate, the pilots will utilize outputs from SELES timber supply models, Co-Location Marxan models (DS04a.) and potentially from CFCI Patchworks. The purpose of the pilots is to compare and contrast the efficiency (parsimony), ecological appropriateness and accuracy of the landscape level reserve design derived from an air photo analysis, spatial optimizing models (Marxan, DS04a) or finer scale GIS spatial and temporal modelling (Patchworks).

Objectives

1. To develop and analyze landscape level reserve designs in representative landscape units using a variety of methods (air photo, Marxan, Patchworks etc.), to compare the accuracy, efficiency (parsimony) and ecological appropriateness of each method.
2. To test the hypothesis that strategic level reserve design (Marxan) has utility to inform lower scale reserve planning and designation and can be an efficient first step in reserve planning (as compared to developing reserves based on air photo interpretation in individual LUs).
3. To evaluate the most effective (time vs. accuracy) method to identify landscape level reserve networks.

4. To identify potential candidates for OGMAs and/or WHAs in representative landscape units.

Expected Use/User/Benefits

- Inform First Nation DSP planning activities
- Inform First Nation and Provincial discussions related to harmonization of DSPs and full implementation of EBM.
- Inform ongoing OGMA and WHA identification processes

Key Tasks

1	Confirm air photo and all LU datasets (focal species, forest cover, TEM, TRIM etc.) are acquired via data sharing agreements and available in house	DC/DF
2	Confirm work plan, resourcing and budget requirements (and potential capacity building opportunities)	Subcommittee
3a	Confirm targets (old growth, focal species etc.) for reserve scenarios	Subcommittee
3b	Confirm LUs to be used for pilots	Subcommittee
4	Map “hard” reserve network required as a result of land use objectives (riparian, grizzly critical etc.) (if available, compare subregional timber supply GIS layer vs. Patchworks vs. air photo interp)	Contractor(s)
5a	Adding to existing hard reserves, develop air photo based reserve design scenarios for X LUs	Contractor(s)
5b	Use Marxan outputs that match specific target scenarios as a starting place and refine the hard reserve network using air photo based reserve design	Contractor(s)
6a	Ground truth target scenarios (helicopter time) and refine reserve scenarios	Contractor(s)
6b	Provide reserve scenarios to focal species experts for peer review	Focal Species experts
6c	Refine reserve scenarios as a result of peer review	Contractor(s)
7	Report to subcommittee	Contractor(s)
8	Report to EBMWG	Subcommittee
9	Recommend areas to be considered as input for a landscape level reserve design	EBMWG

Deliverable(s) and/or Milestones

- GIS output (shapefile) prioritized reserve design – shapefiles
- Final Report documenting methods and evaluating various methods for developing reserve design scenarios; rationale for specific reserve designs
- Collaborative recommendations for spatial reserve design planning prepared in coordination with Chuck Rumsey (DS 04a: Co-locaiton project consultant) and Hannah Horn (EI 02c: Focal Species analysis project consultant)

Responsibilities

- EBM WG lead via a project subcommittee consisting of:
    - Dan Cardinal, Grant Scott, Wally Eamer
    - Dennis Crockford (ILMB), Glen Dunsworth/Sally Leigh-Spencer (CFCI), Jody Holmes (RSP)
    - MOE and MoFR technical representatives as appropriate
- Major partners include First Nation DSP technical representatives

Linkages to other EBM Projects or Initiatives

- Data Management Tool (DS01) needs to be completed and populated with key datasets required for this project and/or data needs to be shared from ILMB/MoE for airphotos.
- EI01 (2nd old growth workshop) may provide recommendations the assumptions used to "account" for old growth at stand and landscape scales.
- If available, outputs from Marxan (Co-Location DS04a.) will be used either as a starting place and/or to compare with reserve designs resulting from alternative methodologies.
- The outputs of this project may be inputs into the second Focal Species experts workshop (EI02) and be peer reviewed for how well the reserve designs meet the needs of focal species.
- The outputs of this project may be run through Patchworks to inform development of refined economic and cost indicators and to explore how well the reserve design perform temporally when combined with soft reserves through time.

Method of Implementation

[X] Contract: Airphoto reserve design – Laurie Kremsater and Terry Lewis

[ ] Expert Panel / Workshop

[X] Internal EBMWG Task

☐ Other: _____

Budget

Item	Budget	Source
DS 04b reserve design pilot	$55 600	EBMWG