

File: 06310-F02-04
06310-010

March 19, 2013

Mr. Greg Neale, RPFT
Woodlands Manager
Sundre Forest Products Inc.
Postal Bag 1
Sundre, Alberta T0M 1X0

Dear Mr. Neale:

**Subject: APPROVAL - SUNDRE FOREST PRODUCTS INC. MOUNTAIN
PINE BEETLE ACTION PLAN - SPATIAL HARVEST SEQUENCE**

Dear Mr. Neale:

The spatial harvest sequence (SHS_v11) component of the July 12, 2012 Sundre Forest Products Inc. Mountain Pine Beetle (MPB) Action Plan is approved. All other components of the MPB Action Plan are not approved.

The following applies:

1. The approved annual allowable cuts (Effective May 1, 2007) from the January 24, 2008 Forest Management Plan Amendment Approval remains in effect.
2. The spatial harvest sequence (SHS_v11) is effective beginning May 1, 2011.
3. All companies shall keep written documentation of the issues and comments raised by the public during operational plan consultation, as well as responses and actions to address the concerns.
4. All companies shall adhere to the Alberta *First Nations Consultation Guidelines on Land Management and Resource Development* for the following:
 - a. Consult with First Nations (as identified by the department) during operational plan development;
 - b. Make specific enquiries during First Nations consultation (per 4 a. above) to identify how and where planned forest management activities may affect;
 - treaty rights to hunt, trap and fish for food; and
 - traditional use of the FMA area.
5. In the event of a significant MPB infestation within Forest Management Unit (FMU) R10, all companies shall discuss priorities and coordinate efforts for MPB control, timber salvage and forest renewal activities with the Forestry Program Manager, Clearwater Area.

6. All companies shall follow the mapped twenty-year harvest sequence (SHS_v11) as approved in the July 12, 2012 Mountain Pine Beetle Action Plan.
 - a. To address operational planning concerns, all timber disposition holders are authorized to modify the SHS by deleting and replacing from the net landbase, no more than 20 percent of the total sequenced area in each compartment per decade, while harvesting no more than 100 percent of the total area within the SHS by compartment, by decade.
 - b. Preference shall be given to selecting stands from the second ten-year period of the SHS (May 1, 2021 - April 30, 2031) when replacing deleted stands (from 6. above). Where this is not feasible, replacements may be from any other stands identified in the approved net landbase of the FMP, with priority given to pine stands that are ranked highly susceptible to MPB infestations.
 - c. Should companies propose to exceed the variance described in (6 a.), the Area Manager, Clearwater Area may require the completion of a Compartment Assessment and the Senior Manager, Forest Planning may recommend the adjustment of the approved AAC to reflect the impact of the variance.
 - d. The department requires variances from the SHS to be reported annually and for the five-year Stewardship Report to analyze the cumulative variance from the SHS and describe the potential impacts of the actual variance on the achievement of forecasts made in the FMP.
 - e. The department will generally not request a modification to the approved harvest sequence unless required by a change in legislation or a policy approved by the Minister.
7. By May 1, 2013 SFP shall demonstrate the company and embedded quota holders have sufficient seed for each seed zone to adequately reforest all areas scheduled for harvest in the first ten-years of the SHS. Where insufficient seed supply exists, a seed collection plan shall be prepared for the Senior Manager, Reforestation to ensure seed supply sufficiency.
8. By July 1, 2013 SFP and the department shall complete negotiations to update the Sundre Forest Products Timber Harvest Planning and Operating Ground Rules.
9. The next FMP shall be received by the department on or before April 30, 2015. The Terms of Reference for the next Forest Management Plan shall bring forward outstanding items from the review of the July 12, 2012 Mountain Pine Beetle Action Plan.

We look forward to working with Sundre Forest Products Inc. on the 2015 Forest Management Plan.

Please contact Robert W. Stokes, Senior Manager, Planning Section at (780) 422-2690 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Original signed

Darren Tapp, MBA, MF, RPF
Executive Director

c: Rick Moore, Acting Forestry Program Manager, Clearwater Area