

Appendix D Communications Log

A copy of the *2010 Mountain Pine Beetle Plan and General Development Plan Summary Document* is provided at the end of this section

Open House

The following sections provide an overview of the response and issues raised at the open houses HWP have held since 2007.

2007 Open House

There were three open houses in 2007, which were held in Edson at the Edson Leisure Centre on March 20, 2007, in Grande Cache at the Grande Cache Shoppers Mall on March 21, 2007, and in Hinton at the Parks West Mall on March 22, 2007. For each open house, the table below summarizes the issues raised or feedback provided, as well as HWP's response:

Table A 1. 2007 Open House; Summary of Public Input

Open House	Person's Attending	Issues Raised/Feedback provided	HWP Response
Edson	14	No issues or feedback provided	n/a
Grande Cache	22	No issues or feedback provided	n/a
Hinton	29	No issues or feedback provided	n/a

2008 Open House

There were two open houses in 2008, which were held in Edson at the Edson Leisure Centre on March 26, 2008, and in Hinton at the Parks West Mall on March 27, 2008. For each open house, the following table summarizes the issues raised or feedback provided, as well as HWP's response:

Table A 2. 2008 Open House; Summary of Public Input

Open House	Person's Attending	Issues Raised/Feedback provided	HWP Response
Edson	12	Concern raised by Edson ATV and snowmobile club around HWP restricting access to their club's traditional trail systems due to the Company's harvesting operations.	HWP organized a follow up meeting with representatives with the ATV and snowmobile club. Information about the location of main trail systems was exchanged. The issue appears to be resolved.
Hinton	25	A concern was raised regarding the amount of wood that appeared to be "wasted" after logging operations were complete (i.e. wood that was not being utilized).	HWP staff talked with the individual (a former Company pulpmill employee) and explained the factors that contribute to the perception that wood is being wasted (i.e. the change in utilization standard from 10/8 to 15/10). A follow up letter was also written to this individual.

2009 Open House

There were three open houses in 2009, which were held in Edson at the Edson Leisure Centre on March 25, 2009, in Hinton at the Parks West Mall on March 26, 2009, and in Hinton at the Föhn Festival on June 30, 2009. The Föhn Festival is an annual festival that celebrates multi-cultural heritage – HWP had a tent at the festival and provided information to the public on its landbase allocation for the FMP and Beetle Plan.



The issues raised or feedback provided, as well as HWP's response were are described in the following table:

Table A 3. 2009 Open House; Summary of Public Input

Open House	Person's Attending	Issues Raised/Feedback provided	HWP Response
Edson	7	No issues or feedback provided	n/a
Hinton (March 26)	22	A concern was raised regarding a "hanging culvert" on the Quigley Road that was thought to be restricting fish passage.	This concern was passed on to HWP's Chief Biologist, who noted that he was aware of it and had talked to his staff to see if the culvert was in the repair plan.
		A member of the public asked for a full copy of HWP's Stewardship Report (which contains a current description and report on all of the Company's VOITs). The same person also expressed his belief that HWP was "wasting wood".	A written response was provided to this individual by HWP, which included a copy of the 2008 Stewardship Report and an explanation of why HWP does not believe it is wasting wood.
		A member of the public was interested in the visual impact of the proposed harvesting in the McLeod 8 working circle.	A HWP planner talked at length about what had been done to date with respect to model the visual impact of proposed harvesting – a previous commitment was also reiterated, that being that HWP would bring the redesign of this compartment to its public advisory group for comment.
Hinton (June 30)	Over 1000 people attended the Festival	A member of the public mentioned that HWP's FMA Fire Access Maps shows a road that is no longer active – this road is located on or near this person's land. The concern is that the fire access maps still show this road as open and this may be a part of the reason as to why people are ignoring the "road closed" signage.	HWP looked into this closed road issue and there is a "No Public Access" sign on the road, but that isn't a reason to remove the line designating this relatively small stretch of road from HWP's Fire Access map.
		Two people mentioned that there was a hanging culvert on the Quigley Creek Road. This culvert can be reached by going to 16km on the Robb Road and then turning north on the Quigley Creek Road – drive north for 4 kms and arrive at a culvert. Trapped fish have been observed (due to a hanging culvert)	HWP explained to these two people that this hanging culvert was known to us but wasn't on the Company's schedule to replace this year.

2010 Open House

There were two open houses in 2010, which were held in Edson at the Edson Leisure Centre on March 17, 2010, in Hinton at the Parks West Mall on March 18, 2010. The following table summarizes the issues raised or feedback provided, as well as HWP's response:

Table A 4. 2010 Open House; Summary of Public Input

Open House	Person's Attending	Issues Raised/Feedback provided	HWP Response
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		Paul Belanger	Mr. Belanger was interested in getting a copy of the Fire History (by decade) map and Harvesting History (by decade) map.
Edson	19	Margaret Kidner	It unclear what Ms. Kidner was looking for based on her comment sheet, which reads "Fire at Lambert Creek on Highway 47 about 1800 to 1845".
		Shane Blundell (and Tim Trahan and Glenn Buckmaster from HWP)	This discussion took place at the March 17 th open house in Edson. Mr. Blundell expressed a number of concerns around site prep and herbicide use. He was also interested in HWP's MPB Plan.
Hinton	15-35	Jack Wright (in discussion with Aaron Jones)	Jack wanted to let Aaron know that there were two "You are Here" signs that have completely faded at the beginning of the Spruce Management Trail. Aaron noted that we would replace these signs sometime this fall.
		Email from Tyler Waugh to Aaron Jones	In this Mar 22 nd email Mr. Waugh is looking for the answers to 5 questions that resulted from his open house visit. Responses were provided by Aaron Jones on March 23.

Stakeholder Letter

2005 Stakeholder Letter

A letter dated February 22, 2005 was sent out to 356 different stakeholders. This letter invited stakeholders to provide input into the development and implementation of a new Sustainable Forest Management system (a requirement under the Company's CSA Z809 certification system) and a new Forest Management Plan. The letter provided the recipient with an explanation on what type of advice HWP was looking for and outlined a mechanism for that input (i.e. the VOIT process) – specifically the stakeholder letter asked for feedback on:

2007 Stakeholder Letter

In 2007, Hinton Wood Products embarked on another concentrated initiative to gather feedback from key stakeholders in the development of the Forest Management Plan. This initiative was called an "Enhanced Planning Process".

This Enhanced Planning Process can best be described as a process that goes above and beyond what a forest company might typically do to solicit input from the public when developing a FMP. There was generally poor response to this call for input into the planning process.

2008 Stakeholder Letter

In 2008, in an effort to further ensure that key stakeholders were aware that HWP was developing a new FMP and that they had an opportunity to be involved in the process, another stakeholder letter (dated March 7, 2008) was sent out. This letter specifically noted that HWP was continuing with the development of a new FMP (for a 2009 submission date) and invited the recipient to attend HWP's 2008 Open House if they had any concerns, questions, or feedback. 166 stakeholders received the March 7, 2008 letter.



2009 Stakeholder Letter

In 2009, HWP again sent out a letter (dated March 12, 2009) to a list of key stakeholders making them aware that HWP was developing a new FMP and that they still had an opportunity to be involved in the process. This letter specifically noted that HWP was continuing with the development of a new FMP (with a new submission date of 2010) and invited the recipient to attend HWP's 2009 Open House if they had any concerns, questions, or feedback. 161 stakeholders received the March 12, 2009 letter.

2010 Stakeholder Letter

In 2010, HWP again sent out letters (dated March 5 and March 11, 2010) to a list of key stakeholders making them aware that HWP was developing a new FMP and that they still had an opportunity to be involved in the process. This letter specifically noted that HWP was continuing with the development of a new FMP (with a new submission date of 2014) and invited the recipient to attend HWP's 2010 Open House if they had any concerns, questions, or feedback. 152 stakeholders received the first letter, 98 received the second letter.

Forest Resources Advisory Group

Following is a summary of the communications activities undertaken with FRAG related to the FMP and FMP amendment.

Table A 5. Description of FRAG activities related to the FMP and/or FMP Amendment

FRAG Meeting Date	FMP and/or Beetle Plan Related Activity
January 10, 2005	<p>New CSA SFM Plan and FMP – HWP outlined to FRAG the public participation process requirements under the CAN/CSA Z809-02 Standard, as well as the new ASRD Planning Manual, which provides direction for the development of a Forest Management Plan (FMP).</p> <p>HWP described the new requirements of the CSA Standard and the new Planning Manual noting that a major difference with the new Planning Manual was that it now requires that the CSA Z809-02 standard be followed with respect to public participation requirements. In addition, ASRD is requiring that the same VOIT process used in the CSA Standard, be used for FMPs. It was noted that ASRD had already mandated 36 VOITs as required for any new FMP submission – organizations can (and will be encouraged) to add more. HWP agreed to send a copy of the current ASRD mandatory VOITs to each FRAG member.</p>
January 31, 2005	<p>FRAG members agreed to adopt a set of Basic Operating Rules and a revised Terms of Reference to use in developing the new CSA/CAN Z809-02 SFM Plan and the new Forest Management Plan.</p>
Feb 28, 2005	<p>Public Participation Process for the development of a new SFM System and FMP – HWP reviewed the public participation process that FRAG was about to embark on (which was discussed in detail at the January 31st meeting), and then distributed a large table summarizing the Values, Objective, Indicators and Targets (VOITs) to be reviewed by FRAG.</p> <p>HWP discussed how the VOIT table was set up, explaining that some VOITs were government mandated, while others were VOITs proposed by HWP and were voluntary. Some were also government mandated VOITs for which HWP was proposing to change the wording. It was noted that any proposed change to wording would have to be agreed to by the ASRD. FRAG then began the process of reviewing each VOIT in the table.</p>



FRAG Meeting Date	FMP and/or Beetle Plan Related Activity
April 25, 2005	<p>Update on input and interest in CSA/FMP VOITs from other stakeholders – HWP gave an update to FRAG members on input and interest from other stakeholders into the CSA/FMP VOITs. HWP noted that in addition to this FRAG process, the Company had also sent letters to over 300 stakeholders including trappers, local community groups, ENGOs, company contractors, schools, town council, and MLAs explaining the process and asking for their input. HWP also pointed out that the Company had put an advertisement in the local newspapers, again explaining the process and providing avenues for feedback.</p> <p>HWP explained that to date the Company had received 21 responses via telephone, letters, and e-mails, looking for clarification or further information. HWP had either answered their questions and/or provided the information being requested. HWP noted that for those people who wanted an opportunity to provide further input, the Company had provided them with a copy of the CSA Standard, the 2004 SFM Plan, the 2004 SFM Stewardship Report, and the most up to date VOIT Table.</p> <p>HWP also specifically noted the Company had received a large submission from CPAWS providing input and feedback regarding Objectives, Indicators and Targets. The CPAWS submission had specifically requested that the Company pass on their submission to FRAG members. HWP then gave FRAG members a copy of the CPAWS submission with the Company’s response. HWP explained that although the Company didn’t agree with all of the suggestions made by CPAWS, there were quite a few that HWP did agree with, and where there was disagreement it was more about the issue, method, and/or amount.</p>
September 26, 2005	<p>VOIT table submitted to FRAG for Review & Comment – HWP finished putting together the draft CSA Z809 SFM Plan (containing 46 VOITs), which includes all feedback and comments from FRAG and the public. HWP provided each FRAG member with a copy of the entire body of the plan minus the detailed information on each VOIT. For the section of the plan providing detailed information for each VOIT, HWP divided the 46 VOITs into smaller groups of 2-3 VOITs and then asked each FRAG member to review their 2-3 VOITs plus the body of the SFM Plan. The FRAG members present choose the groups of VOITs they were most interested in – it was then left to HWP to pass on the other VOITs to the FRAG members not present at the meeting for their review and comment. All comments were to be back to HWP by October 31, 2005.</p>
April 24, 2006	<p>FMP - Alternate Scenarios – HWP presented a number of alternate management scenarios to FRAG, which would be used in the development of the FMP. The overall goal would be for FRAG to provide the Company with feedback on which scenario (based on the forecasting) they preferred. HWP presented the five following alternate scenarios for forecasting:</p> <p>Alberta base case - Follow the Alberta Forest Management Planning Manual and Provincial Ground Rules as closely as possible (clearcut, 15/10 utilization, oldest first, 2 pass, 2 m green-up, block size, ground rules watercourse buffers, etc).</p> <p>Biodiversity/Protection Emphasis - "Green" emphasis zoning – increase level of protection and/or special management (e.g. no harvest in caribou area, riparian areas, sensitive sites, etc), increase retention levels, and increase old-growth, etc.</p> <p>Sustainable Forest Management - Balanced SFM approach</p> <p>Mountain Pine Beetle Threat Reduction - MPB threat reduction; an increased AAC to reduce mature/old pine, plus other elements of Scenario 3 (this essentially is the “Beetle Plan”)</p> <p>Timber Emphasis – Maximize AAC and minimize operating costs. No protected or special management areas, clearcut, one pass, herbicides, etc.</p>
June 19, 2006	<p>HWP notified FRAG that the timing of the FMP submission may be changed in order to better build the MPB issue into the equation (essentially developing a “Beetle Plan”).</p>
October 23, 2006	<p>Alternate Scenario Discussion – HWP outlined in more detail the five alternate scenarios discussed on April 24th, which HWP was looking at forecasting for the FMP and SFM Plan. HWP was soliciting feedback from FRAG on which of the scenarios they would like to see HWP forecast. FRAG recommended that HWP run a number of SFM scenarios, with variations – the main criteria being that each scenario would have a realistic chance of being chosen.</p>



FRAG Meeting Date	FMP and/or Beetle Plan Related Activity
January 8, 2007	<p>Impact on ACC from closing Woodroom and increasing top size– HWP talked to FRAG members about utilization standards and the changes that occurred due to the closure of the pulpmill woodroom. The last Forest Management Agreement specified a 10/8 centimetre butt/top utilization standard and 2.44 m length standard. HWP noted that a request to change this utilization standard to 15/10 was made to ASRD in May of 2006 and approved.</p> <p>The previous conifer AAC (at the 10/8 utilization standard) was 1.9 million m³/yr; however, the new AAC (effective May 1, 2006) is 1,535,000 m³ (conifer) based on the 15/10 utilization standard. HWP also explained that the Company asked the government for a variance to a 15/13 utilization for “cut-to-length” (CTL) harvesting, which accounts for about 35% of the Company’s harvesting. The minimum length for CTL would also change from 2.44 metres to 3.76 metres.</p> <p>HWP pointed out that a Pine Management Strategy to address mountain pine beetle (MPB) was to be completed in 2009. It was noted that HWP has amended its harvest plans to focus more on pine stands. The plan is to move from 70% pine harvest to 90% in the upcoming years.</p>
February 26 2007	<p>Announcement of the Enhanced Planning Process – HWP explained to FRAG members that West Fraser had been developing a strategy to try to address the pressures being put on a number of West Fraser customers by ForestEthics and CPAWS (and their partners). HWP noted that the requirement to develop a new FMP and the imminent arrival of MPB had provided the Company with an opportunity to reach out to the environmental community and try to address some of the issues that they have raised; which were primarily around caribou habitat protection and certification.</p> <p>HWP explained to FRAG that the Company had asked CPAWS (and their ENGO partners) to join HWP in an “Enhanced Forest Management Planning process”. CPAWS ultimately declined the request. Even though the ENGO community was not on-side with the Enhanced Planning Process (EPP), HWP decided to announce the process anyway; along with the deferral of harvesting in approximately 50,000 hectares of caribou range on the FMA. It was pointed out to FRAG that HWP will, once again, ask these ENGOs to participate in this planning process. In addition, HWP noted that other stakeholders on the FMA such as FRAG members, the oil & gas industry, mining companies, and Aboriginal communities will also be asked to participate in the EPP.</p> <p>MPB Pine Beetle Strategy – HWP gave FRAG members an update on the Company’s MPB Strategy. The Company’s MPB plan was to reduce MPB food supply over the long term; meaning reducing beetle risk by reducing the age class that is most susceptible to MPB – older mature trees. It was noted that in the short term, HWP will shift harvesting to the northwest part of the FMA, which has the most susceptible pine and is closest to the active Willmore Wilderness Area MPB infestation.</p> <p>In carrying out the MPB strategy, HWP explained that the Company would harvest susceptible pine stands primarily in a broad corridor extending from the Wildhay River in the southwest to the Berland River in the north. The intent was to slow expected MPB spread from the outbreaks northwest of the FMA. All harvest in caribou range in the northwest corner of the FMA would be deferred unless the government directs harvest to effectively protect caribou habitat and other resource values both inside and outside caribou range. It was noted that HWP may harvest some susceptible pine stands in other areas of the FMA to meet economic considerations, and that all MPB outbreaks would be assessed and the stands they occur in would be harvested if eradication or effective containment was possible.</p>
March 26, 2007	<p>Enhanced Planning Process Update – HWP gave an update on the Enhanced Planning Process noting that originally the FMP was due to be submitted in June 2008, but with the announcement of the Enhanced Planning Process HWP would be asking ASRD to give the Company an extension to mid 2009. HWP clarified how the Company envisions the Enhanced Planning Process consultation to take place - it would be more of a one-on-one consensus building process, than a typical round table process.</p>



FRAG Meeting Date	FMP and/or Beetle Plan Related Activity
May 28, 2007	<p>Enhanced Planning Process – HWP provided a brief review of the Enhanced Planning Process, noting that letters had been mailed out to each FRAG member inviting them to participate outside of the FRAG process on any VOITs that were of particular interest to themselves and/or their organizations. HWP provided FRAG members with a summary of the response received to date from invitations to participate in the Enhanced Planning Process. HWP also noted that the Company’s request to delay the submission of the FMP until 2009 had been approved by ASRD.</p> <p>HWP provided FRAG members with a VOIT Table that showed the current status of each of the VOITs that were being proposed to be included in the new FMP. HWP explained to FRAG members the current status of each VOIT in the table, noting that each VOIT would be in one on three groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Those VOITs not previously brought to FRAG – they would be brought to FRAG in the upcoming months for review and discussion. - Those VOITs previously vetted through FRAG – they would not be revisited. - Those VOITs previously vetted through FRAG, but require some possible changes to the wording of the Indicator, Target or acceptable variance.
September 24, 2007	<p>FMP/Enhanced Planning Process – HWP explained that the work on the FMP was proceeding well, explaining to FRAG members that there are three major items being worked on:</p> <p>Landbase Information – HWP is pulling together all of the land base information (forest inventory, ELC, administrative information, FMA boundaries, etc). The new AVI has also recently been approved for the FMA. A new FMA boundary needs to be agreed upon, as the old FMA agreement expires next year. HWP needs to determine net downs for such factors as steep slopes, aesthetics, and riparian zones.</p> <p>VOITs – Some VOITs have been vetted through FRAG already, but there are still new VOITs that FRAG has yet to see, as well as some VOITs (that FRAG has previously seen) with proposed changes.</p> <p>Yield Curves – HWP explained that yield curves are an important component of a FMP as they predict how well and quickly trees will grow based on a number of factors (e.g. age, site, managed vs unmanaged stands, etc.).</p> <p>HWP explained that once all of this information is pulled together, the Company would bring it all back to FRAG to discuss. One of the next steps would then be to calculate the timber supply based on the above noted information and run different scenarios, which would then be shown to FRAG.</p> <p>VOIT Status – HWP provided FRAG with the most current VOIT table and explained that the plan was to try to address 2 to 3 VOITs each meeting rather than all of them consecutively. This would mean it wouldn’t be quite as difficult for FRAG members to go through VOITs a couple at a time (rather than going through the entire table at each meeting).</p>



FRAG Meeting Date	FMP and/or Beetle Plan Related Activity
November 26, 2007	<p>Alternate Strategies at the Landscape (FMA) Level – HWP reminded FRAG about the last discussions around alternate strategies (Oct 23, 2006) for the FMP, noting that HWP was going to provide FRAG with 5-7 alternate strategies at the landscape level. Each of the alternate strategies would then be forecast, and FRAG would provide direction to HWP on which strategy they preferred for the FMP. At the Oct 23/06 meeting, FRAG was clear that they wanted to see scenarios that were realistic (i.e. scenarios that HWP would seriously consider) and did not want to see “extreme” scenarios that had no chance of being selected as the “preferred scenario”. HWP presented FRAG members with an amended list of alternate strategies based on feedback from the Oct 23/06 meeting:</p> <p>Status Quo – Similar to the 1999 FMP scenario, with 2 or 3 pass harvest sequence, even-flow of harvest over planning horizon, stands are regenerated to full stocking after harvest, and conifer focus (deciduous is incidental).</p> <p>Harvest pattern – Change in harvest pattern; allow harvest areas to fluctuate in size and shape, within the identified range of natural variation. Otherwise same as “First Scenario ”</p> <p>MPB outbreak – Scenario 2 plus MPB outbreak and Enhanced Forest Management with the intent to fill in age class gaps (obtain sawlogs at a younger age). Assumption that all highly susceptible pine is dead in 10 years and then salvaged for 10 more years.</p> <p>Healthy Pine – This is a pine management scenario. Similar to Scenario 2 but accelerate the harvest of mature pine to reduce the susceptibility to MPB. The target is to reduce susceptible pine to 25% of what it is currently planned to be in 20 years. Focus harvest on pure pine (>90%) and manage mature pine seral stage to low end of the range of natural variation</p> <p>Caribou – No harvest, or modified harvest, in caribou area. Assess the first four scenarios, then select which to assess for caribou strategies.</p> <p>HWP explained to FRAG that the Company was looking for feedback about these alternate strategies – are they appropriate; should more, or less, strategies be looked at, etc.</p>
January 7, 2008	<p>Update on impact on FMA landbase moving to 15-10 utilization – HWP provided an update on the impact on the AAC of recent changes to HWP’s utilization standards.</p>
April 6, 2009	<p>Forest Management Plan Update – HWP outlined to FRAG members the “Beetle Plan” that HWP would be submitting in September of 2009. HWP explained that the Beetle Plan has a focus on reducing the number of pine stands which are highly susceptible to mountain pine beetle. In order to complete this plan, HWP had to develop new information for the FMA including: new forest inventory, updating the landbase for harvesting, fires, landuse, and seismic, new steep slopes (LiDAR) information and a new hydrology layer. HWP showed FRAG members new maps which outlined this new information.</p> <p>HWP also noted that as part of this Beetle Plan, HWP had to develop (forecast) four different timber supply scenarios: a base scenario (business as usual), a healthy pine scenario (75% reduction in susceptible pine in 20 years), a disaster scenario (all pine is killed in a short time period), and a preferred scenario. HWP also will have to produce a five year spatial harvest sequence as part of the Beetle Plan, and describe strategies to manage the following non-timber values: water, caribou (maintain deferral), trumpeter Swans (3 lakes), and grizzly bear (modeling, support SRD process)</p> <p>HWP then gave FRAG members an update on the progress of the Forest Management Plan; noting that some of the important work (such as updating the status of the landbase) will already be done as part of the Beetle Plan; however, other items remain such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Incorporating all VOITs - Developing additional non-timber values strategies - Completing a 20 year spatial harvest sequence - The re-assessment and recalculation of the Annual Allowable Cut <p>The submission date for the FMP is now September 2010.</p>

FRAG Meeting Date	FMP and/or Beetle Plan Related Activity
May 25, 2009	<p>Forest Management Plan Update – HWP gave FRAG members another more detailed (since the April 09 update) update describing the Forest Management Plan (FMP) process and the current status of the FMP. It was noted that there were four main components of a FMP: landbase determination, growth and yield, policy (e.g. Acts, regulations, VOITs, Company objectives, etc.) and Annual Allowable Cut. HWP explained that the FMP was a two step process:</p> <p>The ‘Beetle Plan’ – due for submission Sept 30/09. It will contain a 5 year spatial harvest sequence.</p> <p>The FMP – due for submission Sept 30/10 (but this date may change depending on the status of Land Use Framework). The FMP will be built on ‘Beetle plan’, address all VOITs and contain a 20 year spatial harvest sequence.</p> <p>HWP then provided an update on the status of each of the major spatial layers required for determining the proper landbase – the FMA boundary, forest inventory, compartments, steep slopes, historical harvest areas, planned cutblocks, historical fire areas (since 2000), watersheds, hydrology, land use dispositions (e.g. well sites, pipelines, etc.), wildlife, ecosites, seismic lines, and special management areas.</p> <p>HWP noted that a preliminary area summary of the contributing landbase indicates that it will decline from in 2009 – a significant portion of this decrease is due to a change in utilization standards (i.e. from 10/8 in the 1999 FMP to 15/10 in the next FMP). HWP provided FRAG members with a demonstration of what netting down a contributing landbase looks like from a spatial point of view – using aerial photos from a portion of the FMA, FRAG was shown the affect of removing contributing landbase due to factors such as riparian zones, steep slopes, and inoperable land.</p> <p>HWP also discussed in more detail the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How HWP will be modeling growth & yield of stands within the FMA; - How policy will impact the contributing landbase; and - How AAC is calculated (in a broad sense).
September 28, 2009	HWP presented FRAG members with an explanation and description of the final landbase determination for the Hinton FMA, that was prepared as part of HWP’s Beetle Plan submission.
October 26, 2009	HWP provided a brief update on the status of the growth and yield curves that will be used in the Beetle Plan and FMP – noting that he would be providing most of the information at the next FRAG meeting.
February 22, 2010	HWP gave a presentation that summarized the current status of work on HWP’s MPB Plan. This included an overview of the new landbase determination, a discussion regarding the four required timber scenarios wanted by ASRD (i.e. Baseline, Healthy Pine, Disaster, and Preferred), the new recommended Annual Allowable Cut (AAC), the spatial harvest sequence, and HWP’s strategies around managing for caribou, trumpeter swan, grizzly bear and water.
April 12, 2010	HWP gave FRAG members a presentation on how HWP was addressing four major non-timber values in the MPB Plan; specifically: water, grizzly bear assessment, caribou, and trumpeter swans. Results of the water yield and grizzly bear (rsf, mortality risk and road density) assessments were presented.



Aboriginal Engagement

The following tables summarize the list of aboriginal communities with whom HWP conducted aboriginal engagement activities.

Table A 6. HWP Aboriginal Engagement List (December 17, 2007)

Aboriginal Community	Status	Aboriginal Community	Status
Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation	First Nation	Aseniwuche Winewak Nation (AWM)	Non-status*
Foothills Ojibway	Non-status	Nakcowinewak Nation	Non-status
Mountain Cree (Small Boys)	Non-status	Ermineskin Tribe	First Nation
Louis Bull Tribe	First Nation	Montana First Nation	First Nation
Sunchild First Nation	First Nation	Samson Cree Nation	First Nation

* While the AWM is not technically a recognized First Nation, their situation is unique and the Alberta government recognizes that they should be treated that same as First Nation when conducting consultation.

Table A 7. HWP Aboriginal Engagement List (July 2008 – July 2009)

Aboriginal Community	Status	Mandatory/Voluntary
Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation	First Nation	Mandatory
Aseniwuche Winewak Nation (AWM)	Non-Status*	Mandatory
Foothills Ojibway	Non-Status	Voluntary
Nakcowinewak Nation	Non-Status	Voluntary
Mountain Cree (Small Boys)	Non-Status**	Voluntary
Sunchild First Nation	First Nation	Voluntary
Bighorn Chiniki	Non-Status***	Voluntary

Table A 8. HWP Aboriginal Engagement List (August 2009 – Present)

Aboriginal Community	Status	Mandatory/Voluntary
Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation	First Nation	Mandatory
Aseniwuche Winewak Nation (AWM)	Non-Status*	Mandatory
Ermineskin Tribe	First Nation	Mandatory
O'Chiese First Nation	First Nation	Mandatory
Foothills Ojibway	Non-Status	Voluntary
Nakcowinewak Nation	Non-Status	Voluntary
Mountain Cree (Small Boys)	Non-Status**	Voluntary
Sunchild First Nation	First Nation	Voluntary
Bighorn Chiniki	Non-Status***	Voluntary

* While the AWM is not technically a recognized First Nation, their situation is unique and the Alberta government recognizes that they should be treated that same as First Nation when conducting consultation.

** Some members of the Mountain Cree are members of the Ermineskin First Nation

*** The Bighorn Chiniki live on a federal Indian Reserve near Nordegg but are not recognized by Alberta as a separate First Nation – they are part of the Stoney First Nation.



Table A 9. Summary of Aboriginal Engagement Efforts

Aboriginal Community	Engagement required under terms of HWP's Approved Program	Date and Type of Engagement	Summary of Engagement Activities
Alexis	No (HWP did not have an approved Aboriginal Consultation Program at this time)	- February 4, 2005 - Meeting at Alexis office	HWP reviewed the FMP Terms of Reference (ToR), CSA protocols, and Alberta Planning manual. The intent of this review was to explain the documents, their purpose, and to show specific areas related to Aboriginal requirements or commitments. HWP gave copies of all documents to Alexis representatives. HWP reviewed the FMP ToR point by point. Alexis stated they would like to participate through FRAG, but required a letter of invitation from West Fraser to take to council (this letter of invitation was subsequently sent to Alexis).
		- May 19, 2005, - Meeting in Jasper - Palisades Center	HWP discussed with Alexis the invitation to sit on FRAG to participate in the FMP process. The Alexis representative indicated that their council still had not decided if they should attend FRAG, and if they did, which representative they would send.
		- January 4, 2006 - Meeting in Spruce Grove (at Tim Horton's)	HWP discussed with Alexis how to proceed with the FMP given that FRAG has completed the initial VOIT review and that opportunity has passed. HWP committed to keeping Alexis aware of the FMP development so that Alexis can express their interest in wanting to comment on specific aspects of the FMP. HWP also provided Alexis with a copy of West Fraser's Alberta Stewardship Report for 2005.
			<p>The Alexis Nakota Sioux First Nation requested that HWP share information about its forest management process (FMP). Alexis decided that the "<i>Chief and Council Consultation Camp-out</i>" was a good venue for this, as it would allow for as many interested Alexis people as possible to sit in on the discussion. There were approximately 200 people at the event and 50-60 sat in on the FMP discussions.</p> <p><u>Key points made by HWP staff included:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HWP's commitment to the preferential involvement of Aboriginal peoples in the sustainable management planning for our FMA (as stated in the FMP terms of reference). • Overview of the FMP and how it impacts forest management on the FMA. • For the Alexis to ensure that issues of concern are addressed in the FMP, it is critical that they are actively involved in providing information – the Traditional Culture Study (Foothills Research Institute) was referenced as a possible opportunity. • To facilitate discussions between the two groups, the VOIT process of addressing issues was presented. • HWP is a supporter of the Grizzly Bear Research Program, noting that it will likely be used as an evaluation tool for Company management plans. • HWP is a supporter of numerous caribou research studies, including the Little Smoky Caribou Calf Project which has increased calf survival from 12.5% to 75%. • Historic sites are an important part of the social sustainability of the Forest Management Plan • The issue of mountain pine beetle and potential impacts was discussed. <p>HWP would like to talk with Alexis sometime next year to present work being done on the FMP – including landbase allocation and yield estimates.</p> <p><u>Key points Alexis had for HWP</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexis desires to be involved in our plan formation process; not just receiving a report after all the decisions have been made. • Alexis understands the need to be involved in providing good information to the Foothills Research Institute Traditional Culture Study. The council and the elders need to make a final decision on this. Alexis would like information on the process of being a contractor for HWP and they would like to be included in receiving RFPs when HWP is seeking bids for work. Additionally, they would also like to receive notice of our job postings • The Alexis Chief, Council and Elders are in favour of business in general and would like to be able to work with HWP to provide economic opportunities.



Aboriginal Community	Engagement required under terms of HWP's Approved Program	Date and Type of Engagement	Summary of Engagement Activities
Alexis	No (HWP did not have an approved Aboriginal Consultation Program at this time)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - August 8, 2006 - Meeting at the Cardinal River Reserve (cont'd)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chief said there is potential interest in the Alexis requesting an HWP operations forester help them to understand the value and costs of harvesting trees within their reserve (most likely within the context of some type of long-term sustainable harvesting scenario). Associated with this, they would like someone from HWP to assist them to understand what the typical business arrangement would be if they could sell logs from their reserve to HWP • Alexis trappers are concerned that they seem to be only receiving 10 days notice prior to disturbance. <i>HWP Note</i> – This complaint seemed to be more in regards to Weyerhaeuser rather than HWP. This is likely because HWP is already in the practice of providing notice to trappers potentially impacted by operations at the beginning of each timber year. Diligently continuing this practice should prevent this from becoming a future sore point. • Alexis would like information on future HWP FMP developments such as land allocations and yield estimates. • Alexis council and Elders seemed to indicate that they would like access roads around the reservation to remain active and not to be decommissioned. There was also interest in the road to Robb.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - May 4, 2007 - Letter 	<p>As part of HWP's Enhanced Planning Process (discussed in section 2.22), a letter was sent to Alexis looking for input into the development of HWP's new Forest Management Plan (FMP). Included in this letter were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overview of the Proposed FMP process and how HWP is planning to enhance it • An Issue Identification Form – Table 1 of this form outlines the VOITs (Values, Objectives, Targets, and Indicators) that HWP was most interested in working with Alexis on. Table 2 was a form for Alexis to fill out to provide us with any additional VOITs or other issues that you would like to discuss. • VOIT Table – This table outlines the current VOITs that Hinton Wood Products either has as part of an existing Plan or is in the process of developing for submission with the FMP <p>HWP received no response to this letter.</p>
Alexis	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - March 12, 2010 - Letter 	<p>Each letter contained the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An explanation of HWP's MPB Plan, with an attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document, that showed the location of proposed blocks for 2010 to 2018 years. • An explanation of HWP's GDP, with an attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document, with compartments that will be operated within the next 5 years highlighted in grey • An explanation of HWP's chemical and mechanical stand tending, with those blocks that may be operated on during the April 2010 to March 2011 season highlighted on the attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document. • An explanation of the government's Community Reforestation Program, with a separate map (see Appendix 3 for a copy of this map) attached showing those blocks proposed for mechanical or chemical treatments during the 2010/2011 operating season. • A large map was also enclosed with the Summary Document – this map was a reproduction of the map found in the middle of the Summary Document. This larger scale map made it easier to identify the exact location of proposed activities. • An invitation to provide feedback to HWP or schedule a future meeting to discuss any of the plans summaries in the Summary Document. • Each Aboriginal community was given to April 16, 2010 (34 days or 5 work weeks) to contact HWP if they had any potential issues and/or wanted to set up further meetings.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - March 22, 2010 (letter) - March 23, 2010 (email) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A follow-up letter and email was sent reminding Alexis of the March 12th referral package and asking them to contact HWP if they had any questions regarding the packages



Aboriginal Community	Engagement required under terms of HWP's Approved Program	Date and Type of Engagement	Summary of Engagement Activities
Alexis	Yes	- Mar 23, 2010	HWP received an email response from Orlando Alexis (Lands Consultation Manager; Oil & Gas Negotiator – ANSN) asking that we meet to discuss the March 12, 2010 referral letter. A meeting was set up for April 5, 2010 at 1 p.m. at the ANSN Resource Centre (located near Glenevis, Alberta).
		- April 5, 2010	HWP met with two representatives of the ANSN at 1 p.m. at the ANSN Resource Centre (Glenevis). Present at the meeting were Orlando Alexis, Howard Mustus Jr. (Industry & Community Liaison, Special Projects Negotiations – ANSN), and Aaron Jones (HWP). This meeting lasted approximately two hours.
		- April 19, 2010	HWP send a copy of the information provided to ASRD regarding the engagement activities that were carried out as part of the preparation of our General Development Plan (GDP) and MPB FMP amendment
Aseniwuche Winewak Nation (AWN)	No (HWP did not have an approved Aboriginal Consultation Program at this time)	- March 1, 2005 - Meeting at HWP's Office	HWP reviewed the FMP Terms of Reference (ToR), CSA protocols, and Alberta Planning manual with AWN representatives. The goal of this review was to explain the documents, their purpose, and to show specific areas related to Aboriginal requirements or commitments. HWP gave copies of all documents to AWN representatives. HWP reviewed the ToR point by point and invited AWN to be involved through FRAG. The AWN representative noted that they needed to discuss this with AWN board but thought the AWN would prefer to deal one on one (i.e. not be part of FRAG).
		- March 16, 2005 - Meeting – AWN Office Grande Cache	AWN representative advised HWP that the AWN had been reviewing how they would like to participate in FMP process; however, they have not made a decision yet. HWP explained that work on the FMP was already underway and therefore it would be important to know AWN's preference by the end of March. HWP explained the VOIT process and provided a copy to the AWN and asked for feedback.
		- March 21, 2005 - Phone Call	AWN advised HWP that they do not want to participate in FRAG for FMP consultation – as it involves too much of a time commitment.
		- June 23, 2005 - Meeting – AWN Office Grande Cache	As part of a larger meeting, HWP asked AWN representatives if they had any comments regarding the VOIT process. They, and their elders, had no comments.
		- May 4, 2007 - Letter	As part of HWP's Enhanced Planning Process (discussed in section 2.22), a letter was sent to the AWN looking for input into the development of HWP's new Forest Management Plan (FMP). Included in this letter were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overview of the Proposed FMP process and how HWP is planning to enhance it • An Issue Identification Form – Table 1 of this form outlines the VOITs (Values, Objectives, Targets, and Indicators) that HWP was most interested in working with the AWN on. Table 2 was a form for the AWN to fill out to provide us with any additional VOITs or other issues that you would like to discuss. • VOIT Table – This table outlines the current VOITs that HWP either has as part of an existing Plan or is in the process of developing for submission with the FMP
			HWP received no response to this letter.
	Yes		



Aboriginal Community	Engagement required under terms of HWP's Approved Program	Date and Type of Engagement	Summary of Engagement Activities
Aseniwuche Winewak Nation (AWN)	Yes	- March 12, 2010 - Letter	<p>Each letter contained the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An explanation of HWP's MPB Plan, with an attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document, that showed the location of proposed blocks for 2010 to 2018 years. • An explanation of HWP's GDP, with an attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document, with compartments that will be operated within the next 5 years highlighted in grey • An explanation of HWP's chemical and mechanical stand tending, with those blocks that may be operated on during the April 2010 to March 2011 season highlighted on the attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document,. • An explanation of the government's Community Reforestation Program, with a separate map (see Appendix 3 for a copy of this map) attached showing those blocks proposed for mechanical or chemical treatments during the 2010/2011 operating season. • A large map was also enclosed with the Summary Document – this map was a reproduction of the map found in the middle of the Summary Document. This larger scale map made it easier to identify the exact location of proposed activities. • An invitation to provide feedback to HWP or schedule a future meeting to discuss any of the plans summaries in the Summary Document. • Each Aboriginal community was given to April 16, 2010 (34 days or 5 work weeks) to contact HWP if they had any potential issues and/or wanted to set up further meetings.
		- March 22, 2010 (letter)	A follow-up letter and email was sent reminding AWN of the March 12th referral package and asking them to contact HWP if they had any questions regarding the packages
		- March 23, 2010 (email)	
		April 1, 2010	<p>HWP met with the AWN elder council to discuss MPB. Previously the elder council had expressed concern that HWP was dealing with a “natural occurrence”, that is MPB, by logging; which the AWN did not think was right. In an effort to try to get the elder council to understand that the current levels of MPB in the Grande Cache area are not “natural”, HWP asked Brooks Horne, ASRD's Regional Health Officer to go to Grande Cache and talk to the elders about MPB.</p> <p>Mr. Horne's presentation took place on April 1st and was fairly well received. In addition to the presentation on MPB, there was also a discussion on HWP's “GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document”. There were no specific issues raised about any of HWP's plans.</p>
- April 19, 2010	HWP send a copy of the information provided to ASRD regarding the engagement activities that were carried out as part of the preparation of our General Development Plan (GDP) and MPB FMP amendment		
Foothills Ojibway	No (HWP did not have an approved Aboriginal Consultation Program at this time)	- January 31, 2005 - Meeting at Smitty's Restaurant (Hinton)	HWP reviewed the FMP renewal process, explaining the Alberta Planning Manual and CSA SFM planning process. Copies of both documents were provided to the Foothills Ojibway. HWP reviewed the Aboriginal consultation portion of the Terms of Reference point by point. HWP invited the Foothills Ojibway to sit on FRAG, but they declined expressing that they are not just another interest group and wish to be consulted directly. The Foothills Ojibway noted that they wanted to review the VOITs once we have them drafted.
		- March 3, 2005 - Meeting at Smitty's Restaurant (Hinton)	HWP requested this meeting to find out how Foothills Ojibway wants to be involved in the FMP renewal process. At this time, the Foothills Ojibway were not sure if they wanted to be involved in the FMP process, except to state again that they are not interested in sitting on FRAG. HWP expressed the desire to have some direction by the end of the month. The Foothills Ojibway representative noted that they would probably express their decision in a letter.
		- March 17, 2005 - Phone Call	Jim O'Chiese from the Foothills Ojibway called – HWP asked him how they wanted to be involved in the FMP process. Mr. O'Chiese responded that they do not want to sit on FRAG – they want individual consultation. Accordingly, HWP provided a copy of the VOIT table and agreed to keep the Foothills Ojibway up to date on FMP development.



Aboriginal Community	Engagement required under terms of HWP's Approved Program	Date and Type of Engagement	Summary of Engagement Activities
		- April 27, 2005 - Meeting at Smitty's Restaurant (Hinton)	HWP reviewed the current the VOIT table with the Jim O'Chiese of the Foothills Ojibway. The explanation was not verbatim but very simplified to aid in Mr. O'Chiese's understanding. Mr. O'Chiese had three concerns that he wanted to pass on to HWP: 1. Concern over the lack of Abies (balsam and alpine fir). Mr. O'Chiese noted that none grows back after logging and they use the sap in medicine. In addition, there are herbs that grow with the fir that are no longer present. 2. Salt licks for game dry out after logging even though a buffer is left. Game needs these licks so if the licks dry up game sickens and dies. 3. Concern that HWP was not leaving sufficient forest with arboreal lichens for caribou. They use these same lichens in medicines.
		- May 4, 2007 - Letter	As part of HWP's Enhanced Planning Process (discussed in section 2.22), a letter was sent to the Foothills Ojibway looking for input into the development of HWP's new Forest Management Plan (FMP). Included in this letter were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An overview of the Proposed FMP process and how HWP is planning to enhance it An Issue Identification Form – Table 1 of this form outlines the VOITs (Values, Objectives, Targets, and Indicators) that HWP was most interested in working with the Foothills Ojibway on. Table 2 was a form for the Foothills Ojibway to fill out to provide us with any additional VOITs or other issues that you would like to discuss. VOIT Table – This table outlines the current VOITs that HWP either has as part of an existing Plan or is in the process of developing for submission with the FMP HWP received no response to this letter.
		- March 12, 2010 - Letter	Each letter contained the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An explanation of HWP's MPB Plan, with an attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document, that showed the location of proposed blocks for 2010 to 2018 years. An explanation of HWP's GDP, with an attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document, with compartments that will be operated within the next 5 years highlighted in grey An explanation of HWP's chemical and mechanical stand tending, with those blocks that may be operated on during the April 2010 to March 2011 season highlighted on the attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document. An explanation of the government's Community Reforestation Program, with a separate map (see Appendix 3 for a copy of this map) attached showing those blocks proposed for mechanical or chemical treatments during the 2010/2011 operating season. A large map was also enclosed with the Summary Document – this map was a reproduction of the map found in the middle of the Summary Document. This larger scale map made it easier to identify the exact location of proposed activities. An invitation to provide feedback to HWP or schedule a future meeting to discuss any of the plans summaries in the Summary Document. Each Aboriginal community was given to April 16, 2010 (34 days or 5 work weeks) to contact HWP if they had any potential issues and/or wanted to set up further meetings.
		- March 22, 2010 (letter) - March 23, 2010 (email)	A follow-up letter and email was sent reminding the Foothills Ojibway of the March 12th referral package and asking them to contact HWP if they had any questions regarding the packages. No feedback or response was received by April 16, 2010.
		- April 19, 2010	HWP send a copy of the information provided to ASRD regarding the engagement activities that were carried out as part of the preparation of our General Development Plan (GDP) and MPB FMP amendment
Foothills Ojibway	Yes		

Aboriginal Community	Engagement required under terms of HWP's Approved Program	Date and Type of Engagement	Summary of Engagement Activities
Mountain Cree	No (HWP did not have an approved Aboriginal Consultation Program at this time)	- January 13, 2005 - Meeting at Smallboy Camp	HWP reviewed the FMP renewal process with Reinhardt Roan representing the Mountain Cree. HWP explained the Alberta Planning Manual and CSA SFM planning process. Copies of both these documents and the FMP's Terms of Reference (ToR) were provided to the Mr. Roan. HWP reviewed the Aboriginal consultation portion of the ToR point by point. HWP invited the Mountain Cree to sit on FRAG. Mr. Roan indicated that it would be too expensive to travel to Hinton to do that. Mr. Roan noted that the Mountain Cree is only interested in HWP's operations between the Cardinal and Brazeau Rivers. He indicated that the Mountain Cree will review the material provided and advise if they want to have any other input into HWP's SFM plan and FMP.
		- March 21, 2005 - Meeting at Smallboy Camp	HWP met with Fred Roan at Smallboy's camp. Mr. Roan did not have an answer regarding the Mountain Cree's involvement in the FMP process, noting that he had been in the US and did not know about it.
		- April 21, 2005 - Meeting at Smallboy Camp	HWP reviewed the current VOITs document with Elmer Rattlesnake of the Mountain Cree and left a copy with him. Mr. Rattlesnake never provided any comment, only asking for clarification and understanding. The session was difficult because many of the terms such as ecosystems, riparian, genetic diversity, species diversity, landscape diversity were not familiar to him.
	No (HWP did not have an approved Aboriginal Consultation Program at this time)	- June 5, 2005 - Meeting at Smallboy Camp	This was a follow-up to the April 14 meeting with Elmer Rattlesnake. Mr. Rattlesnake had not shared much with Reinhardt Roan regarding the VOITs. Mr. Rattlesnake did not express any concerns or comments about the VOITs.
		Yes	- May 4, 2007 - Letter



Aboriginal Community	Engagement required under terms of HWP's Approved Program	Date and Type of Engagement	Summary of Engagement Activities
Mountain Cree		- March 12, 2010 - Letter	Each letter contained the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An explanation of HWP's MPB Plan, with an attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document, that showed the location of proposed blocks for 2010 to 2018 years. • An explanation of HWP's GDP, with an attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document, with compartments that will be operated within the next 5 years highlighted in grey • An explanation of HWP's chemical and mechanical stand tending, with those blocks that may be operated on during the April 2010 to March 2011 season highlighted on the attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document,. • An explanation of the government's Community Reforestation Program, with a separate map (see Appendix 3 for a copy of this map) attached showing those blocks proposed for mechanical or chemical treatments during the 2010/2011 operating season. • A large map was also enclosed with the Summary Document – this map was a reproduction of the map found in the middle of the Summary Document. This larger scale map made it easier to identify the exact location of proposed activities. • An invitation to provide feedback to HWP or schedule a future meeting to discuss any of the plans summaries in the Summary Document. • Each Aboriginal community was given to April 16, 2010 (34 days or 5 work weeks) to contact HWP if they had any potential issues and/or wanted to set up further meetings.
		- March 22, 2010 (letter)	A follow-up letter and email was sent reminding the Mountain Cree of the March 12th referral package and asking them to contact HWP if they had any questions regarding the packages.
		- April 19, 2010	No feedback or response was received by April 16, 2010. HWP send a copy of the information provided to ASRD regarding the engagement activities that were carried out as part of the preparation of our General Development Plan (GDP) and MPB FMP amendment
Nakcowinewak Nation (NCN)	No	- January 10, 2005 - Meeting at NCN Office	HWP reviewed the FMP renewal process; explaining the Alberta Planning Manual and CSA SFM planning process. Copies of both these documents and the FMP's Terms of Reference (ToR) were provided to the NCN. HWP reviewed the Aboriginal consultation portion of the ToR point by point. HWP invited the NCN to sit on FRAG. The NCN noted that they would get back to HWP if they wanted to sit on FRAG. The NCN representatives also indicated that they would review the material provided at the meeting and advise HWP on how they wanted to participate.
Nakcowinewak Nation (NCN)	(HWP did not have an approved Aboriginal Consultation Program at this time)	- March 17, 2005 - Meeting – Hinton Training Center	HWP spoke with Jean Whitehorse of the NCN regarding their interests in participating in the FMP process. Ms. Whitehorse indicated that the NCN has not given it another thought since HWP reviewed it with them in January. NCN is not interested in sitting on FRAG. They wish to be kept informed of the sections of the FMP HWP is are working on and will then indicate if they wish to provide comment on that area. HWP provided copies of the draft VOITs.
		- May 19, 2005 - Meeting - Jasper (Palisades Center)	HWP reviewed the VOITs with Jean Whitehorse and Daryl McLeod of the NCN. They sought clarification on some points, but did not offer any comment or suggestion for change. HWP provided a copy of the written VOITs document to them for further review at their convenience.



Aboriginal Community	Engagement required under terms of HWP's Approved Program	Date and Type of Engagement	Summary of Engagement Activities
Nakcowinewak Nation (NCN)		- May 4, 2007 - Letter	As part of HWP's Enhanced Planning Process (discussed in section 2.22), a letter was sent to the NCN looking for input into the development of HWP's new Forest Management Plan (FMP). Included in this letter were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overview of the Proposed FMP process and how HWP is planning to enhance it • An Issue Identification Form – Table 1 of this form outlines the VOITs (Values, Objectives, Targets, and Indicators) that HWP was most interested in working with the NCN on. Table 2 was a form for the NCN to fill out to provide us with any additional VOITs or other issues that you would like to discuss. • VOIT Table – This table outlines the current VOITs that HWP either has as part of an existing Plan or is in the process of developing for submission with the FMP HWP received no response to this letter.
	Yes	- March 12, 2010 - Letter	Each letter contained the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An explanation of HWP's MPB Plan, with an attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document, that showed the location of proposed blocks for 2010 to 2018 years. • An explanation of HWP's GDP, with an attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document, with compartments that will be operated within the next 5 years highlighted in grey • An explanation of HWP's chemical and mechanical stand tending, with those blocks that may be operated on during the April 2010 to March 2011 season highlighted on the attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document,. • An explanation of the government's Community Reforestation Program, with a separate map (see Appendix 3 for a copy of this map) attached showing those blocks proposed for mechanical or chemical treatments during the 2010/2011 operating season. • A large map was also enclosed with the Summary Document – this map was a reproduction of the map found in the middle of the Summary Document. This larger scale map made it easier to identify the exact location of proposed activities. • An invitation to provide feedback to HWP or schedule a future meeting to discuss any of the plans summaries in the Summary Document. • Each Aboriginal community was given to April 16, 2010 (34 days or 5 work weeks) to contact HWP if they had any potential issues and/or wanted to set up further meetings.
	Yes	- March 22, 2010 (letter) - March 23, 2010 (email)	A follow-up letter and email was sent reminding the Nakcowinewak of the March 12th referral package and asking them to contact HWP if they had any questions regarding the packages. No feedback or response was received by April 16, 2010.
	Yes	- April 19, 2010	HWP send a copy of the information provided to ASRD regarding the engagement activities that were carried out as part of the preparation of our General Development Plan (GDP) and MPB FMP amendment
Louis Bull First Nation	Yes	- May 4, 2007 - Letter	As part of HWP's Enhanced Planning Process (discussed in section 2.22), a letter was sent to the Louis Bull First Nation (LBFN) looking for input into the development of HWP's new Forest Management Plan (FMP). Included in this letter were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overview of the Proposed FMP process and how HWP is planning to enhance it • An Issue Identification Form – Table 1 of this form outlines the VOITs (Values, Objectives, Targets, and Indicators) that HWP was most interested in working with the LBFN on. Table 2 was a form for the LBFN to fill out to provide us with any additional VOITs or other issues that you would like to discuss. • VOIT Table – This table outlines the current VOITs that HWP either has as part of an existing Plan or is in the process of developing for submission with the FMP



Aboriginal Community	Engagement required under terms of HWP's Approved Program	Date and Type of Engagement	Summary of Engagement Activities
Montana First Nation	Yes	- May 4, 2007 - Letter	<p>HWP received no response to this letter.</p> <p>As part of HWP's Enhanced Planning Process (discussed in section 2.22), a letter was sent to the Montana First Nation (MFN) looking for input into the development of HWP's new Forest Management Plan (FMP). Included in this letter were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overview of the Proposed FMP process and how HWP is planning to enhance it • An Issue Identification Form – Table 1 of this form outlines the VOITs (Values, Objectives, Targets, and Indicators) that HWP was most interested in working with the MFN on. Table 2 was a form for the MFN to fill out to provide us with any additional VOITs or other issues that you would like to discuss. • VOIT Table – This table outlines the current VOITs that HWP either has as part of an existing Plan or is in the process of developing for submission with the FMP <p>HWP received no response to this letter.</p>
Ermineskin First Nation	Yes	- May 4, 2007 - Letter	<p>As part of HWP's Enhanced Planning Process (discussed in section 2.22), a letter was sent to the Ermineskin First Nation (EFN) looking for input into the development of HWP's new Forest Management Plan (FMP). Included in this letter were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overview of the Proposed FMP process and how HWP is planning to enhance it • An Issue Identification Form – Table 1 of this form outlines the VOITs (Values, Objectives, Targets, and Indicators) that HWP was most interested in working with the EFN on. Table 2 was a form for the EFN to fill out to provide us with any additional VOITs or other issues that you would like to discuss. • VOIT Table – This table outlines the current VOITs that HWP either has as part of an existing Plan or is in the process of developing for submission with the FMP <p>HWP received no response to this letter.</p>
	Yes	- March 12, 2010 - Letter	<p>Each letter contained the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An explanation of HWP's MPB Plan, with an attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document, that showed the location of proposed blocks for 2010 to 2018 years. • An explanation of HWP's GDP, with an attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document, with compartments that will be operated within the next 5 years highlighted in grey • An explanation of HWP's chemical and mechanical stand tending, with those blocks that may be operated on during the April 2010 to March 2011 season highlighted on the attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document. • An explanation of the government's Community Reforestation Program, with a separate map (see Appendix 3 for a copy of this map) attached showing those blocks proposed for mechanical or chemical treatments during the 2010/2011 operating season. • A large map was also enclosed with the Summary Document – this map was a reproduction of the map found in the middle of the Summary Document. This larger scale map made it easier to identify the exact location of proposed activities. • An invitation to provide feedback to HWP or schedule a future meeting to discuss any of the plans summaries in the Summary Document. • Each Aboriginal community was given to April 16, 2010 (34 days or 5 work weeks) to contact HWP if they had any potential issues and/or wanted to set up further meetings.



Aboriginal Community	Engagement required under terms of HWP's Approved Program	Date and Type of Engagement	Summary of Engagement Activities
Ermineskin First Nation		- March 22, 2010 (letter) - March 23, 2010 (email) - April 19, 2010	A follow-up letter and email was sent reminding the Ermineskin Tribe of the March 12th referral package and asking them to contact HWP if they had any questions regarding the packages. No feedback or response was received by April 16, 2010. HWP send a copy of the information provided to ASRD regarding the engagement activities that were carried out as part of the preparation of our General Development Plan (GDP) and MPB FMP amendment
Samson Cree First Nation	Yes	- May 4, 2007 - Letter	As part of HWP's Enhanced Planning Process (discussed in section 2.22), a letter was sent to the Samson Cree First Nation (SCFN) looking for input into the development of HWP's new Forest Management Plan (FMP). Included in this letter were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overview of the Proposed FMP process and how HWP is planning to enhance it • An Issue Identification Form – Table 1 of this form outlines the VOITs (Values, Objectives, Targets, and Indicators) that HWP was most interested in working with the SCFN on. Table 2 was a form for the SCFN to fill out to provide us with any additional VOITs or other issues that you would like to discuss. • VOIT Table – This table outlines the current VOITs that HWP either has as part of an existing Plan or is in the process of developing for submission with the FMP HWP received no response to this letter.
Sunchild First Nation	Yes	- May 4, 2007 - Letter	As part of HWP's Enhanced Planning Process (discussed in section 2.22), a letter was sent to the Sunchild First Nation (SFN) looking for input into the development of HWP's new Forest Management Plan (FMP). Included in this letter were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overview of the Proposed FMP process and how HWP is planning to enhance it • An Issue Identification Form – Table 1 of this form outlines the VOITs (Values, Objectives, Targets, and Indicators) that HWP was most interested in working with the SFN on. Table 2 was a form for the SFN to fill out to provide us with any additional VOITs or other issues that you would like to discuss. • VOIT Table – This table outlines the current VOITs that HWP either has as part of an existing Plan or is in the process of developing for submission with the FMP HWP received no response to this letter.



Aboriginal Community	Engagement required under terms of HWP's Approved Program	Date and Type of Engagement	Summary of Engagement Activities
Sunchild First Nation	Yes	- March 12, 2010 - Letter	<p>Each letter contained the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An explanation of HWP's MPB Plan, with an attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document, that showed the location of proposed blocks for 2010 to 2018 years. • An explanation of HWP's GDP, with an attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document, with compartments that will be operated within the next 5 years highlighted in grey • An explanation of HWP's chemical and mechanical stand tending, with those blocks that may be operated on during the April 2010 to March 2011 season highlighted on the attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document,. • An explanation of the government's Community Reforestation Program, with a separate map (see Appendix 3 for a copy of this map) attached showing those blocks proposed for mechanical or chemical treatments during the 2010/2011 operating season. • A large map was also enclosed with the Summary Document – this map was a reproduction of the map found in the middle of the Summary Document. This larger scale map made it easier to identify the exact location of proposed activities. • An invitation to provide feedback to HWP or schedule a future meeting to discuss any of the plans summaries in the Summary Document. • Each Aboriginal community was given to April 16, 2010 (34 days or 5 work weeks) to contact HWP if they had any potential issues and/or wanted to set up further meetings.
		- March 22, 2010 (letter)	<p>A follow-up letter and email was sent reminding the Sunchild Nation of the March 12th referral package and asking them to contact HWP if they had any questions regarding the packages. No feedback or response was received by April 16, 2010.</p>
		- April 19, 2010	<p>HWP send a copy of the information provided to ASRD regarding the engagement activities that were carried out as part of the preparation of our General Development Plan (GDP) and MPB FMP amendment</p>
O'Chiese First Nation	Yes	- March 12, 2010 - Letter	<p>Each letter contained the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An explanation of HWP's MPB Plan, with an attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document, that showed the location of proposed blocks for 2010 to 2018 years. • An explanation of HWP's GDP, with an attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document, with compartments that will be operated within the next 5 years highlighted in grey • An explanation of HWP's chemical and mechanical stand tending, with those blocks that may be operated on during the April 2010 to March 2011 season highlighted on the attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document,. • An explanation of the government's Community Reforestation Program, with a separate map (see Appendix 3 for a copy of this map) attached showing those blocks proposed for mechanical or chemical treatments during the 2010/2011 operating season. • A large map was also enclosed with the Summary Document – this map was a reproduction of the map found in the middle of the Summary Document. This larger scale map made it easier to identify the exact location of proposed activities. • An invitation to provide feedback to HWP or schedule a future meeting to discuss any of the plans summaries in the Summary Document. • Each Aboriginal community was given to April 16, 2010 (34 days or 5 work weeks) to contact HWP if they had any potential issues and/or wanted to set up further meetings.
		- March 22, 2010 (letter)	<p>A follow-up letter and email was sent reminding the O'Chiese First Nation of the March 12th referral package and asking them to contact HWP if they had any questions regarding the packages. No feedback or response was received by April 16, 2010.</p>
		- April 19, 2010	<p>HWP send a copy of the information provided to ASRD regarding the engagement activities that were carried out as part of the preparation of our General Development Plan (GDP) and MPB FMP amendment</p>



Aboriginal Community	Engagement required under terms of HWP's Approved Program	Date and Type of Engagement	Summary of Engagement Activities
Bighorn Chiniki	Yes	- March 12, 2010 - Letter	<p>Each letter contained the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An explanation of HWP's MPB Plan, with an attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document, that showed the location of proposed blocks for 2010 to 2018 years. • An explanation of HWP's GDP, with an attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document, with compartments that will be operated within the next 5 years highlighted in grey • An explanation of HWP's chemical and mechanical stand tending, with those blocks that may be operated on during the April 2010 to March 2011 season highlighted on the attached GDP & MPB Plan Summary Document,. • An explanation of the government's Community Reforestation Program, with a separate map (see Appendix 3 for a copy of this map) attached showing those blocks proposed for mechanical or chemical treatments during the 2010/2011 operating season. • A large map was also enclosed with the Summary Document – this map was a reproduction of the map found in the middle of the Summary Document. This larger scale map made it easier to identify the exact location of proposed activities. • An invitation to provide feedback to HWP or schedule a future meeting to discuss any of the plans summaries in the Summary Document. • Each Aboriginal community was given to April 16, 2010 (34 days or 5 work weeks) to contact HWP if they had any potential issues and/or wanted to set up further meetings.
Bighorn Chiniki	Yes	<p>- March 22, 2010 (letter)</p> <p>- March 23, 2010 (email)</p> <p>- April 19, 2010</p>	<p>A follow-up letter and email was sent reminding the Bighorn Chiniki of the March 12th referral package and asking them to contact HWP if they had any questions regarding the packages.</p> <p>No feedback or response was received by April 16, 2010.</p> <p>HWP send a copy of the information provided to ASRD regarding the engagement activities that were carried out as part of the preparation of our General Development Plan (GDP) and MPB FMP amendment</p>



2010 Mountain Pine Beetle Plan and General Development Plan Summary Document



MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE PLAN & GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN SUMMARY DOCUMENT



Hinton Wood Products
A Division of West Fraser Mills Ltd.

This Summary Document provides an overview of three plans being prepared by Hinton Wood Products (HWP):

- 1 MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE (MPB) PLAN**
This plan, which is an amendment to HWP's Forest Management Plan, focuses on reducing the number of pine stands (through harvesting) that are highly susceptible to mountain pine beetle attack.
- 2 THE GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (GDP)**
This plan outlines harvesting activities and major road construction for the next 5 years.
- 3 STAND TENDING PLAN**
This plan shows previously logged cutblocks that are being proposed for mechanical and chemical stand tending treatments in the next operating year (May 2010 to April 2011).

Once the GDP and MPB Plans are approved by the Alberta government, the final GDP and MPB Plan documents can be downloaded from our website (www.westfraser.com/hintonforestry) by going to the "Forest Operations" section and following the "Planning" links. The GDP is expected to be approved by May 1, 2010. The MPB Plan is expected to be approved by August 31, 2010.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT?

Hinton Wood Products is seeking input into our General Development Plan (GDP) and Mountain Pine Beetle (MPB) Plan from the public, as well as other interested stakeholders such as Aboriginal communities and our local Forest Resources Advisory Group. The GDP and MPB Plans are fairly long and technical documents that can be hard for a layperson to interpret.

This Summary Document is an easy to understand overview of the harvesting, road construction and stand tending activities being proposed by HWP. Its other purpose is to provide an opportunity for the public and stakeholders to give feedback to HWP before the plans are submitted to the government for approval.

The map and associated legend on the inside of this document show:

- the operating areas (compartments) where HWP is planning to operate for the next 5 years
- the cutblocks being proposed for harvest between 2010 and 2018
- major roads construction in the next five years (none is planned)
- all lodgepole pine stands highly susceptible to mountain pine beetle attack (but not yet scheduled for harvest)
- previously harvested blocks that may undergo a mechanical or chemical stand tending treatment in the next operating year (May 1, 2010 to April 30, 2011)

This Summary Document also outlines other important information contained within the GDP and MPB Plan, such as:

- An overview of the MPB Plan and the planning process in general
- An overview of the General Development Plan
- An update on mountain pine beetle activity on the HWP Forest Management Area (FMA)
- Cut control numbers (i.e. actual harvested volumes versus what is allowable)
- Plans to address four important non-timber values: water, caribou, trumpeter swans, and grizzly bear
- A summary of the new FMA landbase including information on how HWP calculated its recommended Annual Allowable Cut (AAC) for the MPB Plan
- An explanation of the stand tending process, including the difference between chemical and mechanical stand tending
- A description of the numerous ways that the public can have direct input into HWP's operations.



WHAT IS A MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE PLAN?

To understand what the MPB Plan is, it is best to first understand a little bit about the overall forest management planning process set out by the Alberta government. Figure 1 below outlines the planning process in Alberta.

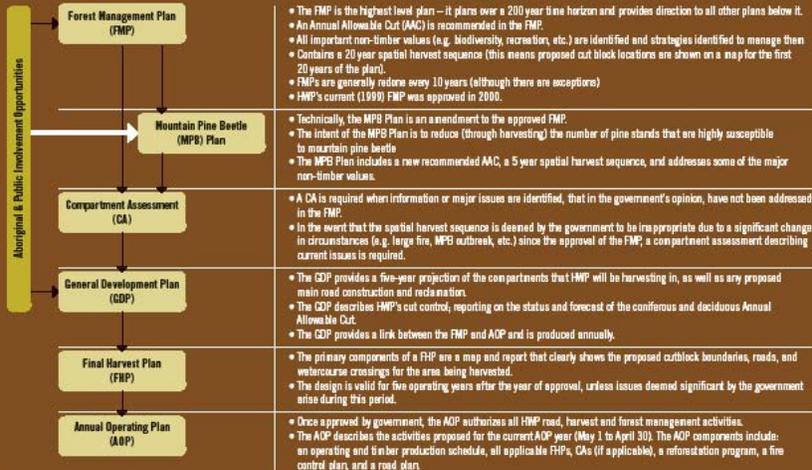


Figure 1

As explained in Figure 1, the MPB Plan being summarized in this document is a proposed amendment to HWP's approved (1999) Forest Management Plan. Even though FMPs are typically redone every ten years, the Alberta government has given HWP permission to delay the next submission of the Company's FMP until 2014. The primary reason for this extension is because of the uncertainty around a number of issues that will have a significant effect on HWP's next FMP – just a few examples of current issues that are unresolved or unknown include: the extent of the mountain pine beetle infestation, the government's Land Use Framework, the Caribou Recovery Plan, and the Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan.



Approving an extension to the submission date of HWP's FMP to 2014 allows the time for initiatives such as the Land Use Framework and the Caribou Recovery Plan to be implemented and then included as part of HWP's new FMP in 2014.

The key purpose of the MPB Plan is to reduce (through harvesting) the number of pine stands in HWP's FMA that are highly susceptible to mountain pine beetle. Highly susceptible lodgepole pine is generally the older and bigger pine forests within the FMA. Reducing the extent of these forests reduces the pine beetle's food source and thereby the risk of large MPB outbreaks.

The MPB Plan contains five main components:

- 1 A new gross and net landbase for HWP's FMA**
This new landbase calculation includes: the use of new forest inventory data, an update for previous harvesting, fires, and energy dispositions, new steep slopes data and new information about water (e.g. streams, lakes, etc.).
- 2 New forest growth relationships**
A model based on HWP's permanent sample plots has been developed to determine how fast the forest is growing on various ecosites.
- 3 A new Annual Allowable Cut (AAC)**
Using the new landbase and growth & yield information, a new AAC for the FMA has been proposed to ASRD for approval.
- 4 Five Year Spatial Harvest Sequence**
At least five years of cutblocks have been identified within the MPB Plan (see the map on the inside of this document for the location of these cutblocks).
- 5 Strategies for major non-timber values on the FMA**
How HWP intends to manage for water, caribou, trumpeter swans and grizzly bear are described in the MPB Plan.

Throughout this document, HWP has provided easy to understand information about the above noted five major components of the MPB Plan; however, there are a number of disclaimers regarding the MPB Plan that the reader should be aware of, namely:

- All plans outlined in Figure 1 must be submitted to the provincial government for approval and/or acceptance.
- Many of the cutblocks shown on the map within this document have not been field checked and are therefore subject to minor changes. Major changes of harvest blocks within a compartment could result in a Compartment Assessment.
- Due to the uncertainty around where the MPB will attack next, the five year spatial harvest sequence might change dramatically. HWP will be directed by the government to address MPB attacked timber first, wherever that may be on the FMA.

Please review this document carefully and contact HWP if you have any further questions, comments, or concerns.



WHAT IS A GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN?

The General Development Plan (GDP) is produced annually and links the Forest Management Plan and the Annual Operating Plan (see Figure 1).

The Hinton Forest Management Area is divided into 140 geographic areas called compartments. The GDP provides a five-year projection of the compartments that HWP will be harvesting in, as well as any proposed main road construction – this information is highlighted in the map found in the middle of this document. The GDP also describes HWP's cut control; reporting on the status and forecast of the coniferous and deciduous Annual Allowable Cut.

Referral of the GDP to First Nations is a requirement of Alberta's First Nations Consultation Guidelines on Land Management and Resource Development.



MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE UPDATE: GOOD NEWS/BAD NEWS

During the first half of 2009, the status of mountain pine beetle (MPB) on the Hinton Forest Management Area (FMA) appeared to a good news story – the cold snap Hinton residents endured in December of 2008 resulted in a high level of mortality of MPB in the general area of the Hinton FMA.

The Hinton FMA has seen the benefits of cold weather over the past two winters as well as the provincial government's aggressive cut and burn control tactics for infested trees. In addition, mortality sampling conducted by ASRD in the spring of 2009 in the Grande Cache/Willmore area indicated that beetle success was low with declining populations, and that there was a low probability of spread from the Grande Cache and Willmore areas.

This was all good news; however, in late July 2009 all that changed when Alberta received another large influx of MPB from British Columbia. These beetles were brought significant distances (hundreds of kilometres) by the wind. They rained down on Alberta in a wide swath from Grand Prairie to south of Hinton, with the highest concentrations to the north of the FMA; however, the effects of this flight have been seen to a lesser extent in Grand Cache, Hinton and Edson areas. New MPB attack has been confirmed as far east as Chip Lake and as far south as the Brazeau River.

This large MPB wind driven event appears to be worse than a similar event seen in 2006. This 2009 flight was also earlier, allowing more time for the beetle's larvae to develop, which often leads to increased over-wintering survivability.

Since 2006, HWP has placed pheromone baits on a grid system (one pheromone site per township) across the FMA (see Figure 2). Each site has three trees with chemical baits that lure MPB in from a distance of a few hundred meters. This has allowed the Company to monitor the level of MPB attack on the FMA.

From 2006 to 2008, MPB attack of these pheromone baited trees remained very low; however, all that changed in 2009. Previously HWP had been able to count the number of individual beetles that had attacked the pheromone baited trees – the most individual beetle hits found over the entire Hinton FMA was 90 in 2007, which decreased to 48 in 2008. However, in 2009, the amount of individual hits on HWP pheromone baited trees were in the thousands (too many to count) and for the first time there was spill over of MPB attack into the non-baited trees adjacent to the trees with the pheromone baits.

This is bad news, as it indicates a not before seen level of MPB attack within the Hinton FMA. Not only were the levels of individual MPB hits significantly higher than anything seen in the past, there were also many more pheromone baited sites that were hit. HWP is now seeing some level of MPB activity across a significant portion of the FMA, although the highest concentrations are still in the north. In addition, ASRD aerial surveys in late fall 2009 detected hundreds of sites with trees starting to die because of natural MPB attack on the FMA, again mostly along the northern edge. Survey and control of all known MPB sites on the FMA is underway for winter 2009-2010. However it is certain that there are other MPB infestations on the FMA that we don't know about yet – more clumps of trees killed by MPB will show up on the FMA in summer 2010 as the needles of infested trees turn red and the dying trees become visible.

What does the future hold? No one knows for sure, but one thing is certain; mountain pine beetle is firmly established on the Hinton FMA and it is not likely that it will ever go away entirely. There is some reason for optimism, however, because when local climate data over the last 10 years is examined, it is encouraging to see that each year the Hinton area has undergone at least one day where temperatures have dropped below -40C (which is fatal to MPB), and in the middle of December 2009 the Hinton/Grand Cache area did experience a cold snap with temperatures plummeting to as low as -43 in some areas. This gives HWP some hope that MPB may still have a difficult time reaching epidemic levels.

In the meantime, all HWP can do is work with ASRD to remove known MPB infestations, continue to harvest MPB susceptible pine to remove the beetle's food source, and hope for cold winters.

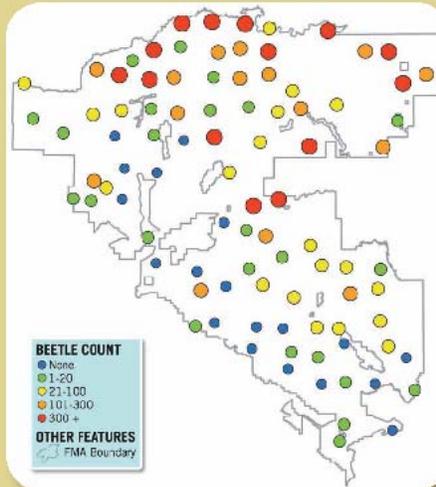
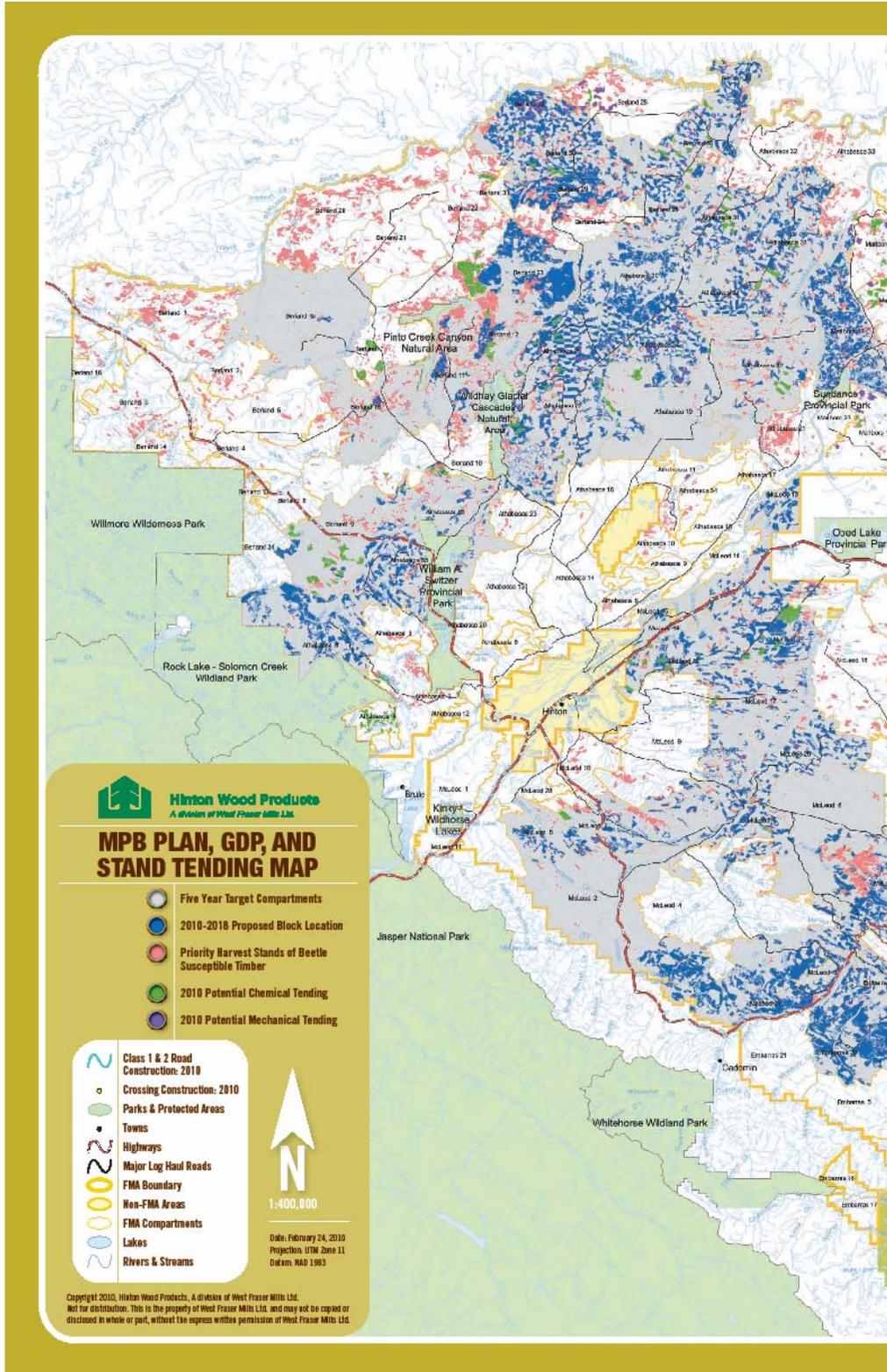


Figure 2 The location of the 2009 pheromone bait sites on HWP's FMA. Each colored circle indicates the number of individual MPB hits at each site. The warmer the colour and the larger the circle, the higher the number of individual MPB hits.





MAP LEGEND

- Five Year Target Compartments** Harvesting will probably occur somewhere in these compartments within the next five years. The main species targeted for harvest within these compartments is mature lodgepole pine.
- Proposed Block Location** These are the approximate location of blocks proposed for harvest between 2010 and 2018 – for most of these blocks, further field checking and approval by the government is still required.
- Priority Harvest Stands of MPB Susceptible Timber** These are stands of lodgepole pine (not currently scheduled for harvest) that are susceptible to being attacked by mountain pine beetle (MPB). These pine stands are generally older, more dense, and have larger trees; all of which provides perfect conditions for MPB to reproduce. If HWP's harvesting plans have to change over the next five years due to future MPB outbreaks, it is likely that these are the stands that HWP will be harvesting within.
- Potential Chemical Tending** These blocks may undergo an herbicide application during the upcoming summer (i.e. August or September 2010) depending upon the results of competition surveys conducted by HWP staff this summer. The method of herbicide application may be from the ground (backpack sprayer) or the air (helicopter sprayer).
- Potential Mechanical Tending** These blocks may undergo a mechanical tending (i.e. removal of competing vegetation using saws) during this operating year (May 1, 2010 – April 30, 2011).

HOW DO I USE THIS MAP?

The Hinton Forest Management Area (FMA) is divided into the following five "working circles" – Berland, Athabasca, Marlboro, McLeod and Embarras. These five working circles are further subdivided into 140 geographical areas called "compartments". This map shows the compartments that HWP is proposing to operate in during the next five years, as well as the spatial location of the cutblocks HWP is proposing to harvest in this same time period.

Due to the uncertainty regarding which stands mountain pine beetle (MPB) will damage next, the map also shows the location of stands that are highly susceptible* to MPB attack (labelled on the map as "priority harvest stands of MPB susceptible timber"). This has been done because it is likely that HWP's harvesting plans shown on this map will change if the MPB outbreak

in the area continues to grow. The stands labelled highly susceptible to MPB attack (but have not yet been scheduled for harvest) are most likely to be attacked next, and if they are attacked they would support high MPB population growth. HWP is asking for public and Aboriginal feedback on these priority harvest stands, so in the event that the Company's harvesting plans have to change quickly to address MPB attack in these highly susceptible areas, we will already be aware of any potential issues. Note that MPB may also attack stands that are not highly susceptible and aren't shown on the map. If that occurs, harvest of attached stands may be necessary, but will be lower priority than harvest of attached highly susceptible stands.

Major road construction (roads with a running surface between 8 and 12 metres) would normally also be shown on this map, but as there is no major road construction proposed by HWP within the next five years nothing has been shown.

Finally, previously harvested cutblocks that potentially may undergo mechanical or chemical stand tending activities during the 2010/2011 operating season (May 1 to April 30) are highlighted on the adjacent map (see last page for a more detailed discussion on this topic).

Are there values in any of the compartments, blocks, or highly susceptible pine stands that you may be aware of that our planners may not know about? – particularly these blocks or compartments planned for harvest in the next five years (the grey-shaded compartments) For example, are there traditional use sites, cabins, valuable wildlife habitat such as bird nests, or a favourite hiking trail? This is the type of information that allows our planners to take into account other values found in the forest. A larger copy of this map has been attached to this document to help the user better identify where they are on the map.

If you would like to provide feedback, please contact us by any one of the methods outlined on the back page.

*Highly susceptible stands are those stands that exhibit the following characteristics: lodgepole pine accounts for more than 80% of the stand, there is no significant understorey, the trees are fairly large (i.e. >20 m in height and >20 cm diameter), and the stands are between 80 and 120 years old.



CUT CONTROL

Cut control is the term used to compare actual cut (reported harvested volume) to the Annual Allowable Cut (target harvest level) and is therefore a measure of long-term sustainability of the timber resource. Our Forest Management Agreement specifies cut control requirements as a minimum harvest to be achieved (to ensure use of the resource for the economic benefit to Albertans), and a maximum harvest allowed (to protect against over-harvest). Cut control compliance is measured over a five year quadrant. Table 1 below summarizes the most recent cut control period:



**Table 1:
HWP Cut Control
Reporting**

Species	Cut Control Period (5 Years)	Target 5-Year Harvest Level (m ³)	Average Annual Allowable Cut (m ³)	May 2008/April 2009 Actual Harvest (m ³)
Conifer	May 1, 2008 to April 30, 2013	7,675,000	1,535,000	937,731
Deciduous	May 1, 2008 to April 30, 2013	847,245	169,449	138,172

MANAGEMENT OF OTHER VALUES

This section briefly summarizes HWP's plans to address a number of important non-timber forest values:

Caribou Caribou habitat is found in only a small (50,000 ha) portion of the Hinton FMA (Berland 1 and 20). HWP has deferred harvesting in this area since 2007, while waiting for completion of the "West Central Caribou Landscape Plan" (WCCLP), which was submitted in May 2008 to the Alberta government for approval (but it is still not approved). West Fraser participated in the development of the WCCLP and HWP has already started to implement some of the WCCLP recommendations. HWP is not scheduling any harvest operations in this area at this time.

Grizzly Bear HWP will continue to support the Foothills Research Institute's grizzly bear research program (www.foothillsresearchinstitute.ca). In conjunction with Alberta Sustainable Resource Development (ASRD), we are using habitat, movement, and mortality risk maps produced by the program to assist with the forest management planning process. This includes development of road plans for the entire Forest Management Area. HWP has also incorporated a grizzly bear mortality risk analysis, and the requirements of the Alberta Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan (approved in 2008) into our 2010 Mountain Pine Beetle (MPB) Plan.

Riparian Areas Riparian areas are ecological communities along river banks, streams, springs, lakes or wetlands, which contain unique vegetation and wildlife habitat due to their association with water. Riparian areas also serve as sources of surface or subsurface water, provide habitat for animal species, and serve an important role in filtering and recharging waterways. Typically forest companies manage riparian areas based on a set of buffers and special management zones that vary depending on the site and type of watercourse. HWP standards and guidelines for operating beside watercourses are set out in the Company's government-approved Operating Ground Rules, which can be found on the following link - www.srd.alberta.ca/managingprograms/forestmanagement/forestmanagementannualguidelines.aspx. HWP will also continue to research and develop a company Riparian Management Strategy, which varies from the standards found in the Operating Ground Rules, however, it would not be implemented without ASRD approval.

Water As part of HWP's MPB Plan, the Company has assessed the impact of planned harvest (i.e. those blocks shown on the inside map) on water flow. This was carried out using a computer program that model the impact of harvesting on each watershed within the FMA - If impacts in a particular watershed exceeded a certain threshold then harvest areas were rechecked.

Trumpeter Swan Breeding Habitat HWP has applied additional buffer areas, as per Alberta government standards, around the three known trumpeter swan nesting ponds. No harvest activities are scheduled to occur within these areas at this time.

Recreation HWP will continue to operate our very successful Recreation Program in 2010/2011. The Company currently manages 15 campgrounds and 8 trail systems on or adjacent to the FMA. Campground maintenance is contracted out to Fox Creek Development Association, an Aboriginal owned and operated company. In-depth information on our Recreation Program, including how to make reservations, can be found by visiting our website (www.westfraser.com/history/recreation) and following the "recreation" link.



A NEW LANDBASE

Hinton Wood Products (HWP) entire Forest Management Area (FMA) is close to one million hectares in size. This diverse area is comprised of five natural sub-regions:

Upper Foothills / Lower Foothills / Montane / Sub-Alpine / Alpine



Eighty percent of the forested area consists of pure coniferous forests. Pure deciduous forests make up roughly 8% of the area and the remaining 12% are mixed-woods (e.g. aspen/spruce). Lodgepole pine is the dominant species and constitutes approximately 65% of the merchantable volume within the FMA. The expanding mountain pine beetle (MPB) infestation being observed across west-central Alberta pine forests makes an amendment to HWP's Forest Management Plan (in the form of the MPB Plan) critical for Hinton Wood Products' FMA.

One of the first and most important components in the development of the MPB Plan for the Hinton FMA was determining the net landbase that is available for harvesting. The purpose of this process was as follows:

- To identify pine stands that were particularly vulnerable to MPB infestation;
- To present the current condition of the Hinton FMA landbase by classifying every hectare of the FMA as either available, or not available for long-term forestry operations.

The last landbase calculation for the Hinton FMA was completed by HWP in 1999 and approved by the government in 2000 – that landbase calculation was based on a different timber utilization standard than the 2010 landbase. This is because in 1999 HWP was harvesting pulp logs, which meant smaller trees could be utilized in Hinton Pulp's woodroom. This woodroom, and one pulp production line, were permanently closed in 2006 due to a combination of competition from lower cost markets, the rising Canadian dollar, and rising energy and fibre costs. After the woodroom closure, because HWP was no longer utilizing pulp logs, new utilization standards were put into place and an adjustment was made to the AAC.

In addition to the new utilization standards, the 2010 MPB Plan landbase calculation must also take into account other information that has been updated since 1999, including: a new vegetation inventory, updated logging and silviculture history, new hydrology (i.e. streams and lakes) data, pine forest susceptibility to MPB, new steep slope information, and updated energy dispositions (e.g. well sites, seismic lines, etc.). Table 2 outlines the new 2010 landbase and also shows the difference between the FMA landbase in 1999 and 2010.

**Table 2:
1999 vs. 2010
HWP FMA
Landbase**

Landbase Category	FMA 1999 (ha) 10/8 URSt*	FMA 2010 (ha) 15/11 BTSt**	FMA 2010 (ha) difference
Total Landbase within the FMA Perimeter	1,038,564	1,034,067	-4,497
Not part of the FMA but within the perimeter (e.g. town-sites, parks, mines, etc.)	36,093	45,293	+9,200
Non-Forested Area Reductions (e.g. rock, swamp, lakes, etc.)	65,909	49,991	-15,918
Dispositions and Other Area Removals (e.g. well sites, gas lines, etc.)	22,044	23,303	+1,259
Seismic Lines	16,144	13,569	-2,575
Ecosite Deletions (e.g. Non-Operational Ecosites, Wet Site, Black Spruce Composition > 80%, etc.)	119,083	197,217	+78,134
Water Course Buffers	53,648	16,737	-36,911
Steep Slopes (e.g. slopes too steep to harvest)	10,303	37,794	+27,491
Total Deletion Area (ha)	323,224	383,904	+60,680
Total Contributing Landbase (ha)	715,341	650,163	-65,178

* This landbase calculation was based on a stands being utilized down to a 10 centimetre butt and 8 centimetre top.
** This landbase calculation was based on a stands being utilized down to a 15 centimetre butt and 11 centimetre top.

A NEW ANNUAL ALLOWABLE CUT

After the new landbase was determined, HWP planners then assigned all forest polygons available for harvesting a particular growth rate.



This growth rate was based on existing growth and yield data collected from permanent sample plots on the Hinton FMA over the last 40 years. Once HWP knew what forest was available for harvest and how fast those forests grow, we were then able to take that information and determine how much volume could be harvested on a sustainable basis.

There is a easy way to understand this – if you know what forests are available for harvest (after managing for various values such as biodiversity, carbon, water, recreation, etc.) and how much that available forest grows each year (growth and yield data), you would then be able to harvest in perpetuity whatever grows each year on that available forest. It's like withdrawing the interest earned in a savings account but leaving the principal to earn more interest every year. While overly simplified, this is essentially how complicated computer models work to determine the Annual Allowable Cut (AAC).

When putting together the MPB Plan, HWP was asked by Alberta Sustainable Resource Development (ASRD) to examine a number of different AACs based on different harvesting scenarios. For example, ASRD asked HWP to look at a base case harvesting scenario (business as usual), a pine reduction harvesting scenario (log 75% of the highly susceptible pine in 20 years), and a disaster scenario (all the mature pine is dead within 10 years). Using the information from these three scenarios, HWP was to develop and present to ASRD a preferred scenario, which resulted in a recommended AAC. Table 3 outlines HWP's past and present AAC, as well as the recommended new AAC moving forward in 2010.

**Table 3:
Annual
Allowable Cut**

AAC	1999-2006	2006-2009*	New** 2010+
Coniferous Annual Allowable Cut (m ³ /yr)	2,236,129	1,535,000	1,766,576
Deciduous Annual Allowable Cut (m ³ /yr)	169,449	169,449	249,832
Total (m ³ /yr)	2,405,578	1,704,449	2,016,408

* An interim AAC was calculated to reflect HWP's change in utilization standards (i.e. moving from a 10/8 cm to a 15/11 cm standard)
** This is HWP's new recommended AAC – it still must be submitted to ASRD for approval.





MECHANICAL AND CHEMICAL STAND TENDING In Alberta prompt reforestation is a legal requirement and takes place through two mechanisms – natural regeneration and planting. Our foresters decide which reforestation method is best suited for each harvested area.

Once a new crop of trees has been established, HWP's forestry personnel must periodically check these trees to see that they continue to survive, are healthy, put on adequate growth, and are free of competing vegetation – they do this by conducting on-the-ground surveys.

If the surveys show that some trees and/or competing vegetation need to be removed, then our foresters evaluate alternate methods of accomplishing this task. We use both mechanical and chemical methods to remove competing vegetation and we are careful to ensure that vegetation/habitat types are maintained throughout the larger forest landscape over time. About half of our blocks that require treatment have competing vegetation removed using mechanical means such as brush saws, while the other half are tended using chemical means like a targeted herbicide application. At this time the only herbicide we use is glyphosate, commonly called "Vision". HWP is also considering the use of triclopyr and food grade mineral oil on a trial basis on 150 hectares of regenerating cutblocks – this chemical is sprayed directly on the bark of competing woody vegetation at ground level (i.e. below 30 cm).

The map on the inside page of this document highlights blocks that potentially may be treated using mechanical and chemical tending in the 2010/2011 operating season. Please note that a block being identified for tending does not imply the whole area will be treated. In addition, in the course of carrying out mechanical and/or chemical tending activities, HWP will leave buffers for watercourse protection, as well as dead trees (snags) and live trees for wildlife habitat. Chemical treatments are timed to minimize impacts to spring and early-summer nesting birds.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

There are many ways to provide direct input into Hinton Wood Products' operations:



Forest Resources Advisory Group (FRAG) FRAG is composed of members representing various stakeholder groups, individual viewpoints, government agencies and industries. Groups are welcome to make an application to join FRAG. All inquiries regarding FRAG can be made by via e-mail at (hwpwoodlands@westfraser.com) or phone (865-8559)

Annual Open Houses Each spring, Hinton Wood Products hosts annual open house meetings in Edson and Hinton. These sessions are an excellent opportunity to provide input into the planning process, ask questions, and look at detailed maps of current and planned development.

Public Notification of the Initiation of the Compartment Planning Process Each time planning starts in a new compartment, Hinton Wood Products places notices in local newspapers asking for feedback.

1-800 Telephone Number Our toll-free telephone line (1-800-293-6955) is staffed during office hours and has a voice recording during all other hours. All input is forwarded to the appropriate staff person for a prompt response.

Website Hinton Wood Products hosts a webpage at (www.westfraser.com/hintonforestry) that has detailed information about all aspects of our Woodlands Department.

Please share your comments and questions with us by any of the following methods:

1 **Aaron Jones**
Stewardship, Public, Aboriginal Affairs Coordinator
You can send a message by e-mail to: aaron.jones@westfraser.com
Phone: (780) 865-8559
Fax: (780) 865-8165

2 Or write to us, at:
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