

<b>Title:</b>	<b>Directive - Forest Harvest Plan/Annual Operating Plan/As-Built Spatial Digital Data Submissions</b>
<b>Number:</b>	<b>AF, Forestry Policy, 2015, No. 2</b>
<b>Program Name:</b>	<b>Forest Management Branch – Forest Resource Management</b>
<b>Effective Date:</b>	<b>May 15, 2016</b>
<b>This document was updated on:</b>	<b>May 6, 2016</b>

**Purpose**

To clearly outline the standards and specifications for submission of both pre-harvest Forest Harvest Plans (FHP), Annual Operating Plans (AOP) and post-harvest As-Built Submissions to Alberta.

**Policy Context**

Unless otherwise approved by the Executive Director, the FHP will follow the approved Spatial Harvest Sequence (SHS) generated in the Forest Management Plan (FMP).

Harvesting operations reporting and monitoring is necessary to ensure the legislated requirements related to all timber harvesting activities conducted on Alberta Crown lands under the authority of a timber disposition are met. The intent of activity reporting is to communicate that a given activity has occurred, where it occurred and when it occurred.

Spatial data submissions are required to allow Alberta to more accurately monitor and report on the following key attributes:

- i. total area (hectares) harvested annually
- ii. the location and number of openings created annually.

These spatial data will increase the quality of field inspections, the timeliness and accuracy of approvals and will improve land management through resource development integration.

**Adhering to the requirements set out in this Directive does not preclude the proponent from meeting existing submission requirements in the applicable set of Operating Ground Rules unless otherwise approved by Forest Management Branch.**

## Procedure

### Spatial and Tabular Data

Spatial data must be submitted in accordance with the standards and specifications outlined in AF, Forestry Policy, 2015, No. 1.

#### 1) *Forest Harvest Plan (FHP)*

The following spatial datasets must be submitted with every FHP as per dates set out in Section 98(1) of the Timber Management Regulation or as agreed to in the Operating Ground Rules:

1. Planned or proposed **harvest area boundaries** (polygons)
2. All proposed **inter-block roads** (arcs/lines)
3. All proposed **watercourse crossings** (points)
4. All proposed **variances** (deletions, additions, deferrals) from the SHS (polygons).

#### 2) *Annual Operating Plan (AOP)*

The following tabular datasets represent a subset of the FHP spatial datasets, and must be submitted with every AOP as per dates set out in Section 98(1) of the Timber Management Regulation or as agreed to in the Operating Ground Rules:

1. Planned or proposed **harvest area boundaries** (requesting harvest approval)
2. All proposed **inter-block roads**
3. All proposed **watercourse crossings**

A key field that links features to the associated spatial FHP datasets features must be provided in the AOP tabular datasets.

The tables must be delivered in one of the following formats: MS Excel (\*.xls), Comma Separated Values (\*.csv) or text (\*.txt).

#### 3) *As-Built Submissions*

As-Built (harvest areas, inter-block roads and watercourse crossings) are to be submitted as per dates agreed to in the Operating Ground Rules. The following spatial datasets must be submitted with As-Built submissions:

1. All **harvest area boundaries** (polygons)
2. All constructed **inter-block roads** (arcs/lines)
3. All constructed **watercourse crossings** (points)
4. All **variances** (deletions, additions, deferrals/bypassed) from the SHS (polygons).

## **Feature Attributes**

Feature attribute data must be submitted in accordance with the standards and specifications outlined in AF, Forestry Policy, 2015, No. 1.

The following feature attributes must be submitted with every spatial/tabular data submission listed above:

### ***Harvest Area Boundaries:***

- Authority to harvest (i.e. disposition)
- Status (e.g. planned, laid out, harvested, as-built)
- ARIS opening number
- Field Number (when applicable)
- Skid Clearance Date
- Data source (e.g. map, GPS, imagery)

### ***Inter-Block Roads:***

- Road class
- Status (e.g. planned, active)
- Year of construction
- Unique Road ID

### ***Watercourse Crossings:***

- Crossing type (e.g. snow fill, bridge, culvert for as-builts only) as defined by OGRs
- Status (e.g. planned, existing, reclaimed)
- Stream class (e.g. ephemeral, intermittent, permanent)
- Unique Watercourse ID

### ***Variances:***

- Variance type (e.g. deletions, additions, deferrals/bypassed)

## **Definitions**

Inter-Block Road – Any temporary road that extends through a block to reach another block. It ends at the edge of the last block connected to the road.

Temporary Road - roads that are part of a harvest area or that connect harvest areas and are built, used and reclaimed before the expiry of the Annual Operating Plan (AOP) or reclaimed within three years of construction.

Watercourse Crossings – Any anticipated watercourse crossings, as defined in the operating ground rules, which would be developed in association with the proposed inter-block roads.

Variance Types – Spatial Harvest Sequence (SHS) variance types and reporting thresholds as defined in the operating ground rules.

## **Submissions**

Submissions must be validated as per Annex 2 of the [Forest Management Planning Standard](#).

All data submissions must be made to the delegated approval authority.

## **Enforcement/Compliance**

Section 105 of the Timber Management Regulation and associated Schedule 2 – Penalties for Contravention

## **Contact Information**

Robert Popowich, Director, Forest Resource Management Section, Forest Management Branch,  
Forestry Division, Agriculture and Forestry  
(780) 643-6618

## **Authorities**

Annex 1 of the Alberta Forest Management Planning Standard (Version 4.1 April 2006)  
Forests Act 29(1) Records  
Timber Management Regulation 98(1), 98(3), 105, 106, 107, 115.1(1)b, 115.1(2)  
Forest Management Agreement Order in Council Data Sharing Clauses 13 or 14 or 15 or 16

Original signed by

Date

May 11, 2016

\_\_\_\_\_  
Darren Tapp  
Executive Director  
Forest Management Branch