

Forest News

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Guideline Review - a new tool for Forest Management Planning

In October the Provincial Forest Technical Committee approved an action plan that will see the current 34 forest management guidelines distilled to six between now and March 31, 2003 with an introductory volume planned for Spring, 2001 it will be accompanied by an information brochure explaining the process.

All of this activity comes out of clause 27 of the Ontario Forest Accord calling for an "expeditious, independent and transparent review" of the 34 forest management planning guidelines. A consultant's final report, received in May, contained 80 recommendations on how to make the guidelines more efficient, effective and easier to use.

"The key recommendation was an amalgamation of the 34 guidelines down to six," explains Joe Churcher, Policy Officer, Forest Management Branch. "How we do that is to group the guidelines into a hierarchical structure of 'books', namely: Landscape Level; Stand Scale; Site Specific Management; Silvicultural Guides; Tourism and Recreation, and number six, Protection of Cultural Heritage Values."

The technical committee recommended

that an additional book be created to set the stage and explain this approach. This volume is currently known as Book O or the Book of Origins.

Work is underway and the 'books' will be phased in with the Book of Origins scheduled for completion in Spring of 2001.

Tourism and Recreation guidelines have already been worked on and so that book may be next to be issued with Books

One and Two coming out last since they require the most work.

"Representatives of the forest licence holders have been involved in the process and know that these won't affect how we manage the forest directly but rather represent a shift in how we apply the guidelines," according to Joe Churcher the Policy Officer. "We will move away from a site-by-site, species-by-species approach to a more holistic method and manner of thinking. It's the next step in our evolution of thinking and understanding of how to manage the forest as a complete eco-system as opposed to managing it one step or issue at a time." •

(The consultant's complete report is available at <http://mnrweb.mnr.gov.on.ca/fmb/doc/what-snew.html>)

VOLUME 1 NO.2

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Ontario

Ministry of Natural Resources
Ministère des Richesses naturelles

Introduction to New Deputy John Burke

In September, John S. Burke was appointed Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Natural Resources.

A career public servant, Mr. Burke most recently served as the Chief Administrative Officer for the City of Ottawa. During his four-year stint with the City, he was instrumental in reducing outstanding debt by \$70 million, increasing the use of technology in municipal services and creating an organization focused on customer service. He has held senior positions with a number of other municipalities, including Dartmouth and Halifax, Nova Scotia; Gloucester and North Bay, Ontario; and Grand Prairie, Alberta.

Mr. Burke holds a bachelor of commerce degree from St. Mary's University in Halifax, and a diploma in public administration from the University of Western Ontario. He is also a graduate of the labour relations program at Queen's University. Forest News recently had the chance to ask the new Deputy Minister some questions about forestry.

Do you have a background in natural resources?

While I don't come to the ministry from a natural resources background, I love to learn and thrive on new experiences. I certainly was aware of MNR's reputation for professionalism and a highly skilled workforce.

I do have considerable experience as a public servant, so I know how bureaucracy works and how to work bureaucracy. Since being appointed Deputy, I have also gained a growing appreciation of the importance of our relationship with the province's forest industry. I am certainly aware of the forest industry's significant contribution to Ontario's economic pros-



John Burke

perity and to the communities that depend on forestry.

What is your view of Ontario's forests?

I'm a strong supporter of MNR's vision of sustainable development and its commitment to protect and manage our natural resources for the benefit of generations to follow. In terms of our forests, I think we need to make better use of the timber we harvest by adding value to it before it leaves the province. That would also include increasing our use of species that we may not have utilized as much in the past and using more of the actual tree. In addition, I believe that we need to focus more on intensive forestry.

I am also firmly behind the Forest Accord. It's a ground-breaking agreement that brings together the forest industry, environmentalists and MNR to develop a strategy to add more protected areas, identify areas suitable for intensive forestry and resolve disputes related to these goals. Some great work has been done on key articles from the accord, and I understand that the board is looking to issue a report this winter. ●

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Question:

Who in the MNR is responsible for the various policy areas and initiatives in the forest program?

Answer:

The Forest Policy Section working with other sections both from within, and outside the Forest Division provides leadership and support, in the development and maintenance of various policy initiatives. Section members and key initiatives are:

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Resource Stewardship Agreements — a new tool for Forest Management Planning

Resource Stewardship Agreements (RSA's) will soon become part of day-to-day business between the resource-based tourism and forest industries in Ontario. Natural Resources Minister John Snobelen recently signed the Tourism and Forestry Industry Memorandum of Understanding formalizing the RSA negotiation process.

During the spring and summer the Ministry will ensure that all interested parties have an opportunity to understand how the process will work and how RSA's can be negotiated. Communication efforts will include a series of public information sessions. Public input to this new tool of forest management followed a posting to the Environmental Bill of Rights.

In explaining the background of RSA's, Stephen Harvey, Policy Officer, Forest Management Branch said, "There was a commitment during the Living Legacy exercise to come up with a process that would result in local negotiations between the forest and tourist industries as to how forest management would occur around tourism values."

Earlier this year representatives of the industries and Ministries of Natural Resources, Northern Development and Mines as well as Tourism agreed to a Memorandum of Understanding on RSA's. This MOU defined a framework to be followed by a forest company and a tourist operator when negotiating an RSA.

Conflicts that can arise between the forest and tourism industries over forest management practices and the possible affect of forest access roads and harvesting on remote and semi-remote areas, have lead to the concept for RSA's which are designed to ensure issues are identified and resolved early. An RSA is a bilateral agreement that will formalize the relationship between the resource-based tourist

operator and a forest company and will encourage the sharing of information and mutual problem solving.

In the future, Sustainable Forest Licence holders will be required to send an advisory to tourist operators in the planning area inviting them to negotiate an RSA where needed.

Brian Hillier, Manager of Forest Policy Section notes that, "RSA's provide an opportunity for registered resource based tourism businesses. It is not a mandatory requirement for tourist operators or necessary in all situations."

RSA's will initially focus on issues related to the tourism-forestry interface, in particular the extent, method and timing of forest management (including harvest, renewal and maintenance), and the location, construction, management and possible retirement of forest access roads. To assist the RSA process, MNR has been reviewing and revising the Timber Management Guidelines for the Protection of Tourism Values (see related article elsewhere in Forest News).

Drawing attention to the benefits of an RSA for both parties involved, Bill Thornton, Director, Forest Management Branch said,

"We hope the tourism and forest industries will make use of this framework being proposed to negotiate an RSA. This process will include the services of professional mediators and arbitrators if required. Having an RSA in place should give both industries the long term certainty they require to operate their resource dependent businesses." •

Forest Accord – progress on many fronts

A release of print material, a fall meeting to produce an update for circulation, changes to permit increased utilization, advances on baseline information, Living Legacy impact assessments and international interest are among the results of the Ontario Forest Accord Advisory Board (OFAAB) activities.

The Forest Accord represents a unique agreement between representatives of the forestry industry and the environmental community presenting important opportunities for significant progress in many areas of sustainable resource management. Since the spring the OFAAB has continued to meet regularly. Early in the Board's work it established a number of task groups to work on various components of the Accord as well as keep current on many related initiatives. For example, members heard discussions from the Forest Policy Committee and MNR staff regarding the Northern Boreal Initiative. This exciting project focuses on working with far north First Nation's communities and opportunities for future planning and forest management. Progress has been realized on a number of important accord commitments. In the late spring the board received a final report from the task group working on Accord item #11 on Improved Utilization. The group described several opportunities that could result in improved utilization of forest harvests and the board endorsed three of them. The Ministry has since approved changes to improve fire salvage opportunities, salvage cuts in low volume and low quality stands as well as semi-commercial thinnings.



Accord item #18 calls for the parties to acknowledge the substantial area of forest land outside of formal protected area designations that is not available for harvesting. To address this commitment MNR has produced a poster / pamphlet that describes the various categories and relative percentages of forest lands in the province. This material should do much to increase public understanding of the complexity related to forest land availability and was made widely available starting in November.

Significant progress has also been achieved on the establishment of baseline information. Before detailed assessment of mitigation strategies and the development of future protected area opportunities can proceed, it is essential to have a comprehensive understanding of the specific effects of the protected areas defined in Living Legacy. After much diligent review by the task group working on

this analysis, OFAAB expects to have definitive assessment of these impacts this winter.

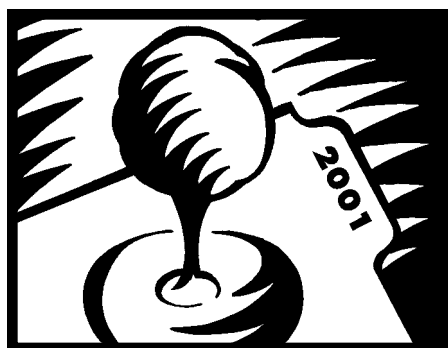
During the November meeting, the board undertook a structured review of progress to date and compared the current results of the Board's work with the expectations they held at the signing of the Accord. The intent is to develop a communications package for release later this year. Keeping people informed of the Accord progress continues to be a priority for the Board.

A great deal of public support has been received and the Ministry intends continuing efforts to share the results of the Accord with members of the public and those from other jurisdictions. To this end the Minister travelled to Europe in June to discuss the Accord at a conference sponsored by the World Wildlife Fund in London. The Minister also met with government and industry representatives in the Netherlands and Germany to talk about Ontario's important achievements. Similar presentations were made by MNR staff at the November annual meeting of the Society of American Foresters in Washington.

This spring, the Accord Board is planning a follow-up to last spring's information sessions. They will be announcing shortly their plans to visit Thunder Bay, Timmins, Sudbury and Peterborough, to discuss progress on the Accord, and obtain feedback on a number of Board initiatives. •

March 2001 or later for Northeast and Southcentral hardwood RFP recommendations

It will take until March 2001 or later to complete a review of proposals for the utilization of surplus white birch and low-grade tolerant hardwoods in northeastern and south-central Ontario. The purpose of the initiative is to stimulate sustainable economic development, which will see the establishment of new facilities or the expansion of existing facilities, and to improve wood utilization.



The Request for Proposals (RFP) covered 28 Crown land forest management units and included an estimated one million cubic metres of surplus white birch and low-grade tolerant hardwoods. The Ministry of Natural Resources invited proposals on April 6, 2000 and it closed on August 4, 2000.

Eleven submissions were received, ranging in size from several thousand cubic metres to several hundred thousand. A project team is evaluating the proposals and will make recommendations to the Minister. Successful proponents will be issued a forest resource processing facility license and a Crown forest resource Supply Agreement

under the Crown Forest Sustainability Act. To be accepted, each proposal must pass a 'sustainability test'. Under the terms of the RFP, each proposal must be economically viable and have a sustainable wood supply, over and above the needs of the existing industry. If it infringes on the wood supply of an existing facility it will be rejected.

Proposals whose log specifications match only a portion of the total available Crown forest resources must satisfactorily resolve the issue of utilization of the associated resources to CFSA utilization standards.

Where two or more proposals are made for the same or overlapping wood supplies, and where there is insufficient wood to supply them all, the proposal or combination of proposals that provides the best benefits for Ontario will be selected, using the following criteria: job creation; investment in Ontario; improvements to wood utilization and forest management; the ability of the proponent to complete the proposal; degree of native involvement. Some of the proposals that were received are quite complex, and the evaluation process is expected to take six months or more to complete. The RFP has closed and that evaluation process is now underway. The Project Team will be making its recommendations to the Minister at the end of the process. ●

Feed Back

We would like your ideas for future editions! If you would like to submit your suggestions please fill out the response card place it in a envelop with your name and address, mail it to;

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F O R E S T N E W S R E A D E R R E S P O N S E

1. What did you like about the newsletter?

2. What topics would you like to see in future?

3. How would you rate this Newsletter?

- A. very informative B. somewhat informative
C. not informative *circle one*

Name

Organization

Address

City

Province..

 Postal code

Forest Practices Competency Committee celebrates success

The forest industry and the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) are celebrating the formation of another successful partnership. The partnership, known as the Forest Practice Competency Steering Committee, was formed in November 1999 with the focus of implementing a co-operative approach to the delivery of competency-based training to the forest workforce as an investment in quality forest management.

The most recent achievement is the delivery of an instructor's course on Erosion and Sediment Control to over 70 participants. These hand-picked instructors from across the province are now delivering the training module to forest operations, compliance and audit staff in the forest industry and MNR. Most of the instructors come from the forest industry, with about one third composed of MNR staff. Others include consultants and municipal representatives.

Instructor Jeff McColl from Buchanan Forest Products (a member of the Ontario Lumber Manufacturers' Association) commented that, "Those in attendance were and are the experts in the field which provided good discussion and clarification on some topics".

Don Moschuk from Abitibi Consolidated (a member of the Ontario Forest Industries Association) concurred, stating that, "Overall participation was excellent."

Larry Rosebrugh, Algonquin Forestry Authority observed that instructors left the course with, "Excellent reference and presentation material."

The new instructors not only learned about effective erosion and sediment control techniques, they also discussed how to fix problems that may occur during and after constructing a crossing. "This course provided me with

excellent views on... erosion control and how to remedy the situation", stated Pierre St. Arnaud from MNR's Hearst District.

The purpose of the Committee is to help the forest workforce stay current with existing legislation, policies and guidelines. Its scope includes the entire forest management cycle, from policy and target setting through planning, implementation, monitoring / compliance and reporting. The initial focus, however, has been on forest operations.

Financial contributions by the OLMA, OFIA and MNR and in-kind contributions from others, lead to the highly successful development and delivery of the Committee's first product, Instructor's Manual - Erosion and Sediment Control at Water Crossings on Forest Access Roads (June, 2000).

The Erosion and Sediment Control training module is a competency-based training package that was designed with specific objectives in mind. It includes an assessment of student knowledge and requires both program and student upgrading and maintenance. In-class components of the module include: the effects of sedimentation, regulatory requirements, erosion theory and control methods, natural channel design and erosion and sediment control at abandoned water crossings. The active field components during the course are conducting compliance inspections



on water crossings and developing basic sediment control plans.

This product was modelled after another highly successful Instructor module developed by MNR's Forest Management Competency Program "Installing Culverts on Forest Access Roads" (January, 1999).

Future training products currently being considered include site damage, compliance and the application of Forest Management guidelines. •

Steering Committee members are:

Bill Roll,

Manager Policy and Government Affairs, Bowater/Ontario Forest Industries Association – Co-Chair

Rich Greenwood,

Manager, Forest Evaluation and Standards, MNR – Co-chair

Steve Munro,

General Manager, Westwind Forest Stewardship Inc.

Dave Milton,

Executive Director, Ontario Lumber Manufacturers' Association

Carl Corbett,
General Manager, Algonquin Forestry
Authority

Paul Jewiss,
Chief Forester, Abitibi-Consolidated,
OFIA

Joe Churcher,
Forest Policy, MNR

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Manager, Southcentral Science & Tech.,
MNR

Mark Speers,
Manager, Wood Allocation
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Forest Industry Relations Branch, MNR

Dave Scott,
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ENGO representative – vacant

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Good faith the foundation for successful relationship with Brunswick House and Domtar

Pointing to "good faith and reasonableness," David Mutch, Area Supervisor Ministry of Natural Resources, Chapleau has high praise and compliments for industry and First Nations representatives in developing an agreement that resulted in First Nations forestry operations on Crown Land, a first for Brunswick House that started in July.

Brunswick House has a history of their own logging operation but needed a more secure wood supply for continued viability. One alternative was to work out an arrangement with an existing licensee for Crown Land and Domtar expressed a willingness to participate in discussions with the community.

"The MNR role was simply as facilitators and negotiators," says Dave Mutch. "Over the last two years we worked to determine the capacity and needs of Brunswick House. BHFN Logging and Trucking Inc. (BHFN), a new corporation created by Brunswick House, came up with a figure of 50,000 cubic metres per year for five years, which Domtar accepted. There was a commitment by both parties to make this work and both parties deserve high praise."

A January brainstorming session with MNR, Domtar and Brunswick House representatives produced a Task Schedule for the year which included access and crossings, understanding acronyms, start-up teams, harvest agreements, acts and guidelines, administration, silviculture, and field compliance. Three core groups – Executive Team, Field Team, Training Team – were established to carry out the work that resulted in the current operations. Ongoing operations are on a business-to-business relationship between Domtar and BHFN with MNR assisting as needed.

Brunswick House Chief Andrew Neshwabin said, "It was a great



opportunity for Domtar to enhance skills of our people in the forestry area and to get our people back into the workforce. We also feel that more training is required within the next five years in order for BHFN Logging and Trucking to successfully operate the business to its full potential."

Domtar's Robert Edmonds, regional Woodlands Manager, said "This agreement represents one of the many methods Domtar is using to improve employment and training opportunities for First Nations in Ontario and Quebec. Similar business development arrangements have been implemented in virtually all of the regions where Domtar operates. Domtar is committed to the development of long-term productive arrangements with First Nations based on mutual respect and economic opportunity and has ingrained this commitment in its Forest Policy." •

ONTARIO MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Staff Update

Profile – Bill Taylor & Brian Polhill join OMNR Forest Management Planning

Bill Taylor joined the Forest Management Planning Section in August 2000 as the Senior Advisor, Timber EA Implementation. His Ontario Public Service (OPS) career began as a geologist with the Ontario Geological Survey, where he conducted regional geological mapping in the Mishibishu Lake and Detour Lake areas.



Bill Taylor

Bill's interest in environment and development issues led to part-time graduate studies at York University, where between 1987 and 1992, he completed a Masters in Environmental Studies while working full time in the OPS - first as a policy assistant with Ministry of Northern Development and Mines (MNDM), followed by a position as environmental planner with the Ministry of Environment (MOE) Environmental Assessment Branch, and then a policy advisor for the Ontario Native Affairs Secretariat (ONAS).

At Queens Park, Bill was involved in a number of significant planning initiatives, including – negotiation of the Dona Lake, Golden Patricia and Musselwhite

mineral resource development agreements; the Windigo-Shibogama Planning Boards; Moose River Basin planning; and, the negotiation with First Nations of the terms and conditions of Ontario Hydro's Mattagami River Environmental Assessment.

In 1992, Bill and his family relocated to Thunder Bay where he joined the ONAS Negotiations Branch. There he assisted Bob Rosehart, Ontario's Chief Negotiator in tripartite self-government negotiations with the Nishnawbe-Aski Nation and Canada regarding lands, resources and the environment.

Bill was also the provincial negotiator for a number of additions to reserves and for inter-jurisdictional watershed planning at Shoal Lake and developed Ontario's strategy for responding to a number of flooding claims in the Treaty 3 area. He represented ONAS in various provincial committees, including MOE's EA Core Review Team, and MNDM's North of 51 Initiative.

Between 1994 and 1996, Bill was the coordinator of the Lakehead University (LU) five-course Certificate Program in Environmental Assessment as well as he revising and teaching two of the courses. In May 2000 Bill received a Certificate in Dispute Resolution from LU and his qualifications as a mediator.

Bill and his wife Lisa Harris have two boys, Kearon (11) and Adrian (9) and he enjoys renovating their home, hiking, reading and cooking. ●



Brian Polhill

Brian Polhill, Forest Management Planning Improvement Specialist, marks 30 years with OMNR this year and reflects on his start in 1971 as a Junior Ranger in Stonecliffe.

"We spent two months spacing a fire origin jack pine stand in the Ottawa Valley. I often wonder what happened to it." That experience prompted him to study Forestry at Lakehead University and then to pursue a career with MNR.

Brian then spent 15 years in the nursery system in Thunder Bay, Dryden and Kenora as a bare root nursery forester, nursery stock specialist and container stock specialist. He started the private

More than growing trees faster

Great Lakes Forest Alliance Forum focuses on Intensive Forest Management

What does Intensive Forest Management (IFM) mean to society and to communities that depend on the forest for their livelihood, economic growth and development?

How does IFM relate to forest diversity and sustainable forest management? What is the importance of forest science and forest ecology in selecting the areas to receive IFM? What suites of silviculture and forest management should be applied?

The Great Lakes Forest Alliance hosted a forum on IFM in Sault Ste. Marie to provide a discussion opportunity on these questions and other related topics for participants from the public, private, environmental, aboriginal and academic sectors.

Specifically, the following components were addressed:

- *The need for IFM*
- *The status of the scientific and social basis*
- *The proportion of area of protection, area for forest management and the area of IFM*
- *What intensive management practices will be preferred*

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources was well represented by MNR speakers and forum participants. MNR speakers included Mike Willick, ADM for Forests Division, Bill Thornton, Director of Forest Management Branch and recently retired former MNR Deputy Minister Ron Vrancart.

Mike Willick focused his remarks on the policy issues that Ontario has considered in its approach to IFM. Bill Thornton discussed the importance of IFM in Ontario and the "4 Ps" of Ontario's IFM framework — planning, practice, protection and proof. In his keynote presentation,



Ron Vrancart gave his predominantly American audience an overview of the Ontario's Living Legacy land-use planning strategy and IFM's role.

"Intensive Forest Management is more than the practice of growing trees faster," is how Bill Thornton summarizes one of the forum's core themes. "There's a need for a holistic approach around IFM, including planning and policy in addition to the practice itself. Then there's the protection of your investment from insects and fire. And finally, there's the proof to ensure that growth and gain is what we anticipated."

The Governors of Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin chartered the Great Lakes Forest Alliance to serve as a forum to foster and facilitate co-operative efforts to enhance management and sustainable use of public and private forest lands. To that end, the Alliance promotes involvement of all those concerned with the region's forests to improve co-operation and co-ordination in forest policy and practice. The Alliance expanded to include Ontario in 1997. ●

More information of the Great Lakes Forest Alliance is available at the web site <http://www.lfsa.org>

Section Team in 2000.

grower program in the Northwestern Region and the Greenhouse Complex at Whitedog. He calls that, "The best of times. The people at Whitedog responded positively to our efforts and were eager to learn. I have never felt as appreciated. They put my picture on their wall of fame."

In 1992, after the regional reorganization, he moved back to Thunder Bay and Northwest Science and Technology where he was Stand Establishment Specialist. Brian notes, "I enjoyed working with the districts and industry on technology development and transfer projects, but alas, things never stay the same. Science and Technology moved heavier into science and further from transfer. I decided it was time to move on and took acting assignments in the Northwest Region as Regional Analyst and FMP Specialist. Which brings me to where I am today."

Highlighting his personal background Brian says, "Mary (nee Sottile of Thunder Bay District) consented to marry me three years ago. We have two children, Blair 26 and Janet 23 and one adorable granddaughter, 18-month old Zoey. When not working, I enjoy golfing, curling, wood working and making wine. All are suitable pastimes for a grandfather." ●

Forest company certification, a national trend

MNR Position on Certification

MNR is supportive of those companies seeking to become certified. Forest certification is an important factor in the forest products marketplace and has the potential to be a barrier to market access. It is important that Ontario forest companies are successful in their certification efforts.

MNR provides for the sustainable forest management of Crown forests through a policy and regulatory framework. MNR provides technical and policy advice during development of certification systems and to those seeking certification, within our government mandate. MNR's approach is to encourage organizations developing certification systems (eg. FSC - Forest Stewardship Council, CSA - Canadian Standards Association) to utilize scientific knowledge and sound public policy, to ensure maintenance of efficiency and effectiveness, and to provide fair market access.

MNR's forest legislation and policy framework provides a strong foundation for those seeking forest certification. This supportive framework includes area based tenure, long term planning by forest management unit, public participation and adaptive ecosystem management. Furthermore, the independent forest audit, MNR's approach to criteria and indicators, and use of provincial forest management guidelines position Ontario's forest companies well to meet certification requirements.

Status of Forest Certification in Ontario

Most major forest companies in Ontario are pursuing forest certification. This trend is nation wide. The Canadian Sustainable Forestry Certification Coalition conducted a survey in 1999 which indicated that companies across Canada plan to certify operations on 60% of the 120 million hectares of managed forest land in Canada by 2003. Generally, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) is the initial or preferred system, but they will ultimately use the system that meets their customers' requirements. As the landowner, MNR will have a role in these certification efforts, but MNR does not intend to act as a co-applicant with any company or landowner. The following tables illustrate the current status certification in Ontario.

CERTIFIED CROWN FORESTS IN ONTARIO JANUARY 2001

COMPANY	FOREST CERTIFIED (1)	CERTIFICATION SYSTEM AND DATE OBTAINED	AREA (ha) (2)	COMMENTS
Spruce Falls Inc. A Tembec Company	Spruce Falls' Woodlands Operations on the Gordon Cosens Forest in Ontario	ISO 14001 June 1999	1,000,000	
Columbia Forest Products	Woodlands operations on 3 licenses in Ontario	ISO November 1999		This company is an overlapping licensee and as such does not have Management responsibilities for a particular area.
Abitibi-Consolidated Inc.	Abitibi-Consolidated Inc. on the Iroquois Falls Forest in Ontario	ISO 14001 May 2000	1,000,000	The ISO System includes CCFM criteria for Sustainable Forest Management
Abitibi-Consolidated Inc.	Abitibi-Consolidated Inc. on the Whiskey Jack Forest in Ontario	ISO 14001 August 2000	1,100,000	The ISO System includes CCFM criteria for Sustainable Forest Management
Abitibi-Consolidated Inc.	Abitibi-Consolidated Inc. on the Spruce River Forest in Ontario	ISO 14001 October 2000	770,000	The ISO System includes CCFM criteria for Sustainable Forest Management
Abitibi-Consolidated Inc.	Abitibi-Consolidated Inc. on the High rock, Fort Frances & Flanders Forests in Ontario	ISO 14001 December 2000	1,300,000	The ISO System includes CCFM criteria for Sustainable Forest Management
Domtar Inc.	Spanish Forest	ISO 14001 December 2000	1,300,000	
Total			6,470,000	

(1) Forest Certified – indicates name of Crown forest management unit in Ontario
(2) Total Crown area certified within the licence

CSA - Canada's National Sustainable Forest Management system standard CAN / CSA Z809-96
ISO - ISO EMS 14001 on forestry operations
FSC - Forest Stewardship Council
SFI - AF & PA's Sustainable Forestry Initiative

CERTIFIED PRIVATE FORESTS IN ONTARIO November 2000

COMPANY	FOREST CERTIFIED (1)	CERTIFICATION SYSTEM AND DATE OBTAINED	AREA (HA)	COMMENTS
Tembec	Specialty Huntsville	FSC Oct. 1998	939	Certified for a specialty product and a private woodlot
Haliburton Forest and Wildlife Reserve Ltd.	Owner Peter Schleifenbaum	FSC Nov. 1997	22,015	First FSC certification in Canada
Regional Municipality of York	York Regional Forest	FSC July 2000	2031	First municipal forest in Canada
Abitibi-Consolidated Inc.	Abitibi-Consolidated Inc. on Freehold in Northwestern Ontario	ISO 14001 Oct. 2000	200,000	The ISO System includes CCFM criteria for Sustainable Forest Management
Total			224,985	

CSA - Canada's National Sustainable Forest Management system standard CAN / CSA Z80996
ISO - ISO EMS 14001 on forestry operations

FSC - Forest Stewardship Council
SFI - AF & PA's Sustainable Forestry Initiative

Forest Certification Developments

A set of 'best-practices' forest management standards for the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence (GLSL) forest region has been drafted by FSC and is undergoing review. MNR participated on a Technical Advisory Group and contributed comments during the public review. The standards have been field tested on private land and a revised set of draft standards has been produced.

Development of a regional FSC boreal standard has been initiated in Ontario as a pilot test. Funding has been received from the World Wildlife Fund. Representatives from Tembec, Domtar, various First Nations, labour, and the Partnership for Public Lands are part of the standards development team, along with several interest groups.

The CSA, Sustainable Forest Management System standards require an applicant to identify and use a set of criteria and indicators that reflect local values. MNR tested a set of indicators that could be used for certification through a cooperative project administered under the Forest Ecosystem Science Cooperative Inc. The partners were Domtar and the Lake Abitibi Model Forest. The CSA Z808 / Z809 SFM 1996 Standards were written to be compatible with the ISO 14000 Environmental Management System standards, using similar terminology and definitions. Nationally a revision process has been initiated to improve CSA harmonization with ISO and clarity, consistency and effectiveness of the standards. MNR contracted KPMG to provide a comparison of MNR's forest management legislative and policy framework to the ISO 14001 system and the CSA SFM standard. This was done to:

- assess MNR's framework in international terms and trade language;
- increase MNR knowledge, provide for informed discussions with forest companies and provide a base case for those pursuing certification;
- increase market access for Ontario's forest products;
- demonstrate government accountability.

The results indicate that MNR's framework contributes to all aspects of the CSA system and most relevant requirements of the ISO system within a government mandate. However, some gaps were identified, which was expected, because MNR's legislative and policy framework was designed to meet a different need. MNR is not intending to pursue certification and therefore it is not MNR's intention to specifically address the gaps that are identified in the KPMG report. As MNR increases the effectiveness of its own forest management program, it is likely that a number of the gaps will be closed. MNR staff have responded to these gaps and provide some notes in the Questions and Answers that accompany copies of the KPMG report.

Tembec recently announced an agreement to work with World Wildlife Fund Canada to have all its forestry operations, an area across Canada totalling more than 13 million hectares, certified according FSC standards.

International Mutual Recognition Initiatives

It is also worthy of note that internationally experts are currently discussing the development of procedures for mutual recognition of the various Sustainable Forest Management standards and certification schemes from all regions of the

world. Examples of these efforts include the Pan European Forest Certification Council and the International Forest Industries Roundtable. Canada is a participant in both of these initiatives. These discussions are also underway through the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers.

Who in the MNR are responsible for Certification?

- Celia Graham has responsibility for certification in a policy and program context, while Betty van Kerkhof is involved from a program implementation standpoint.
- Neil Stocker will be MNR's contact on the FSC Boreal Working Group, acting as a technical advisor.

Where can I get more information of Forest Certification?

- The Canadian Sustainable Forestry Certification Coalition is a group of 22 organizations representing the Canadian Forest Products industry and was initially formed to promote the development of national Sustainable FM Systems through the Canadian Standards Association. (OFIA, OLMA and the SBA area all members) They have a web site at <http://www.sfms.com>
- The Canadian affiliate of the World Wildlife Fund's Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) has a web site at <http://www.web.net/fscca>
- The International Organization for Standardization - ISO 14000 has a web-site at <http://www.ccn.ca/iso14000>
- Questions related to forest certification can be directed to Celia Graham (705)945-6678 or, Betty van Kerkhof (705) 945-6619. •

The times, they are a changin' . . .

MNR's Forests Division has undergone some major changes during this past year. We thought it would be useful to provide you with an overview of the Division and its various functions. The new Forests Division is made up of three Branches; Forest Management, Industry Relations and Aviation and Forest Fire Management.

Forest Management Branch

The role of Forest Management Branch (FMB) is to provide leadership and direction in the management of Ontario's forest resources. FMB's vision is to be recognized internationally as leaders in sustainable forest management policy, planning and practices. FMB's mission is to continuously improve the stewardship of Ontario's forest, based on the best available forest science and information, for the benefit of the people of Ontario. FMB leads MNR in initiatives to involve clients and stakeholders in forest resource management decisions, forest management planning and in implementing the Timber Environmental Assessment. The branch is made up of four sections; Forest Policy, Forest Management Planning, Forest Health and Silviculture and Forest Evaluation and Standards.

The mandate of Forest Policy Section is to lead and coordinate the development, implementation and improvement of forestry legislation, policies, programs, standards and related mechanisms.

Forest Management Planning Section's mandate is to advance forest sustainability in Ontario by providing expertise and leadership in forest management planning and act as steward of the forest management planning process. Their mission is to develop, maintain and



support a forest management planning system, which meets MNR's legal obligations (including the Class Environmental Assessment for Timber Management on Crown Lands) and directs the sustainable management of Ontario's Crown forests.

Forest Health & Silviculture Section is responsible for establishing and promoting best forest practices with external and internal clients that manage, protect and sustain the forest resource.

Forest Evaluation & Standards Section has a dual mandate: Evaluation of forest sustainability in Ontario through information standard setting, coordination of related forest information processes, analysis of available data and the reporting of results.

Ensuring the workforce undertaking forest management in Ontario is adequately qualified to manage the forest sustainably.

Industry Relations Branch

Industry Relations Branch (IRB) was established in September 1999 in an effort by MNR to put more focus on Ontario's forest industry.

The creation of IRB signals MNR's commitment to work collaboratively with industry to manage Ontario's forests, to represent the forest industry across government, and to implement the Ontario's Living Legacy land-use planning strategy.

IRB will represent the interests of the forest industry while ensuring that the public interest in ecological sustainability is addressed. To achieve this new approach, the branch is organized into two sections: the Forest Business and Economics Section and the Wood Allocation and Measurement Section.

Forest Business & Economics Section deals with trade, value-added, business promotion, certification, business analysis, economic development projects, sector strategy, climate change, policy development, timber pricing & revenue forecasting, and forest industry competitiveness.

Wood Allocation & Measurement Section handles wood measurement, wood supply analysis, wood allocation, timber licensing, export permits and Ontario Forest Accord items #11 & 12.

The third Branch within Forests Division, Aviation and Forest Fire Management, will be highlighted in a future edition of this publication. •



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