

Forest Stewardship Plans in British Columbia

Presented to the Columbia
Shuswap Regional district

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Sept 25th 2018

Outline

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- ❑ Role of the FSP
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Forest Planning and Legal Requirements

- Forest Harvesting in BC is governed by the Forest and Range Practices Act.
- The Act specifies forest practice requirements and compels forest licensees to prepare, and have an approved, forest Stewardship plan (FSP).

Role of an FSP in Forest Management

Government Objectives



Forest Stewardship Plans



Forest Practices

What is an FSP?

- Identify areas within which road building, forest harvesting and silviculture activities are proposed.
- FSP's do NOT need to show the actual locations of future roads and cutblocks.
- Must provide the Forest Development Unit (FDU) map where the licensee is operating.
- Must provide results and strategies that are consistent with government objectives for forest values.

What is an FSP?

- Sole plan requiring government approval under FRPA
- Must have First Nation consultation completed
- Subject to public review/comment
- Provides guidance to site plans
- 5 year term

The Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA)

FRPA-

- Outlines how all forest and range practices and resource-based activities are to be conducted on Crown Land in BC, while ensuring protection of everything in and on them, such as plants, animals and ecosystems.
- All forest and Range licensees' activities are governed by FRPA and its regulations during all stages of planning, road building, logging and reforestation and/or grazing.

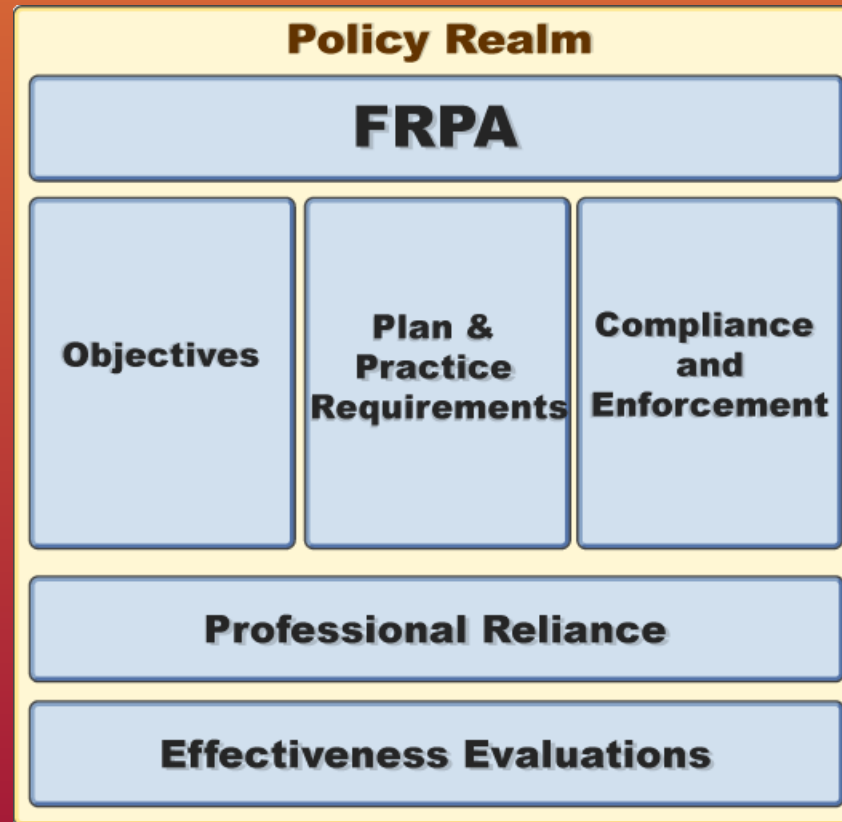
Government Objectives

- Established through regulation and land use plans
 - Okanagan Shuswap Land and Resource Management Plan (OSLRMP)
- Under the Forest & Range and Practices Act (FRPA), the results and strategies in FSP's must be consistent with government objectives.

11 Resource Values under FRPA

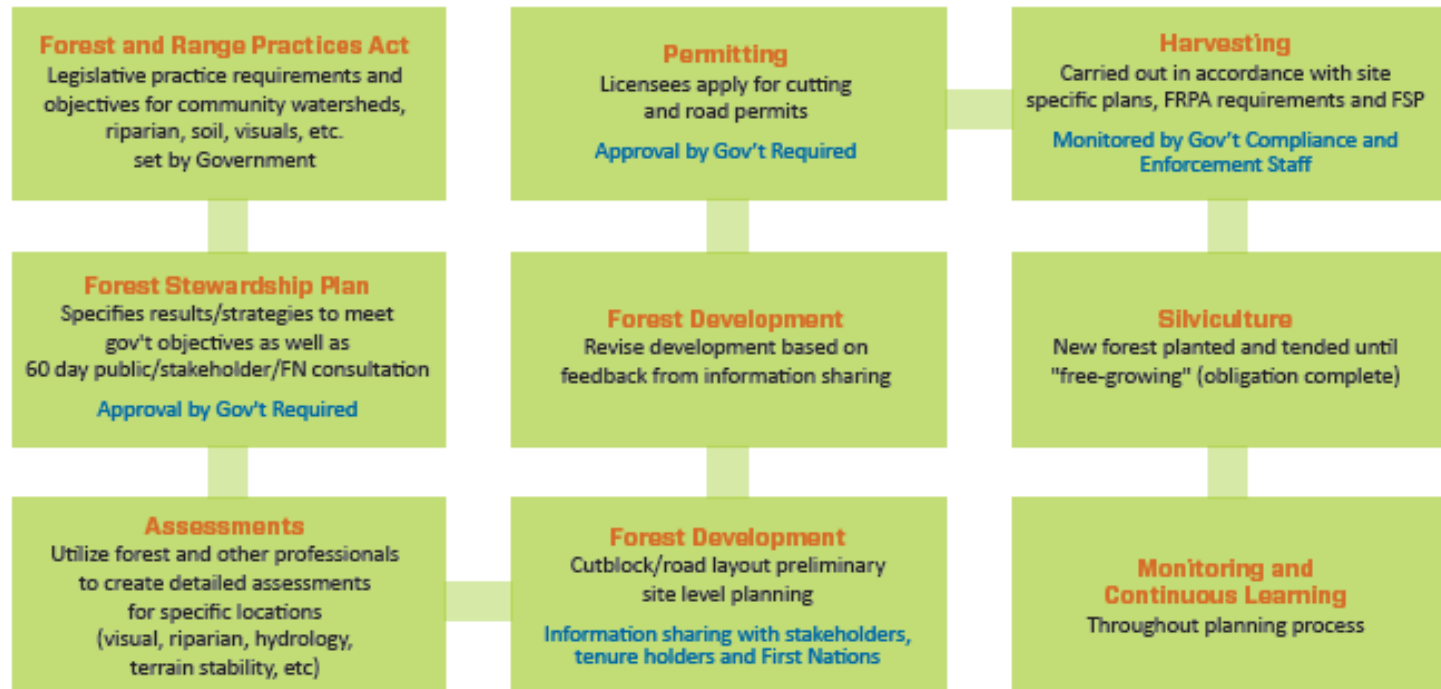
1. Biodiversity
2. Cultural Heritage
3. Fish/Riparian
4. Forage and Associated Plant Communities
5. Recreation
6. Resource Features
7. Soils
8. Timber
9. Visual Quality
10. Water Quality
11. Wildlife

The Elements of FRPA



The Planning Process

THE PLANNING PROCESS



Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR) Measures included in FSP's

- Invasive Plants
- Natural Range Barriers

Invasive Plants

➤ FPPR section 17:

“For the purposes of section 47 (invasive plants) of the Act a person who prepares a FSP must specify measures in the plan to prevent the introduction or spread of invasive plants under the Invasive Plant Regulation, if the introduction or spread is likely to be the result of the person’s forest practices”.

Natural Range Barriers

➤ FPPR section 18:

“For the purposes of section 48 (natural range barriers) of the Act, a person who prepares a forest stewardship plan must specify measures to mitigate the effect of removing or rendering ineffective natural range barriers”.

Stocking Standards

- FPPR section 44 (1):
 - -"a person who has an obligation to establish a free growing stand must establish, for areas that have been identified under Section 16 (1) [stocking standards] as areas to which this section will apply, a stand that
 - (a) meets the applicable stocking standards set out in the FSP for the area, by the applicable regeneration date specified for the area, and
 - (b) meets the applicable stocking standards and free growing height set out in the FSP for the area by a free growing date that is no more than 20 years from the commencement date, unless the minister permits a later free growing date.

Stocking Standards

- Stocking Standards in FSPs set out:
 - density limits (minimum and maximum)
 - minimum inter-tree spacing
 - species (preferred, acceptable)
 - Free growing heights
 - by Biogeoclimatic Zones of BC (BEC)
 - Fuel management stocking standards

TOSSWG

Thompson Okanagan Stocking Standards Working Group

- Southern Interior Working group formed in November 2016 to develop consistent Stocking standards based on the new BEC classification in BC.
- Consists of:
 - government silviculture specialists
 - licensee representatives from 3 forest districts

Chief Forester's Guidance

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/laws-policies-standards-guidance/legislation-regulation/forest-range-practices-act>

Chief Forester requested district managers to prepare a letter outlining the challenge for resource management within their district for forest licensees and forest professionals to consider in their forest management planning.

Key points from the Chief Forester

- More rigour with regard to content that is measurable / verifiable
- Results, strategies and measures consider new information
- Improved public understanding of FSPs
- Review should be predictable and invite ongoing engagement
- Improved planning and site-level information sharing with affected parties
- No unjustifiable hardship, financial or operational

District Managers Letter of Expectation

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/laws-policies-standards-guidance/legislation-regulation/forest-range-practices-act>

Okanagan Natural Resource District FSP Committee

- Most Licencees who operate in this district formed an FSP Committee.

-Several meetings over approximately 1 year to work through land use objectives to develop similar wording for their FSP's.

2016 FSP Workshops

Several FSP workshops were held throughout the province by the Ministry of Forests and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development.

- Writing verifiable and measurable results and strategies
- Minister/Chief forests guidance and what that means
- Stocking Standards
- Forest Development Units
- Professional Reliance

CSRD's Role in FSP's

FPPR Sections 20-22 outline the requirements for conducting public review and comment.

- FSP referral letters are sent to anyone who may be affected by the FSP.
- Advertised in local newspapers
- Open houses

CSRD's Role in FSP's

Examples of Valid Comments

-“The FSP does not appear to address logging activities around areas with alluvial fans above or below the logging area”.

-“There is no mention made of regionally significant trail corridor in the White Lake area, but the Balmoral trailhead is in that area, and it is very significant on a regional level.”

CSRD's Role in Cutblock and road referrals

Operational comments examples:

"Concern with how logging is impacting the Shuswap trail alliance....."

- timing of harvesting and hauling
- Supervision of harvesting to protect the trails (logging preworks)
- Work together at post harvest regarding trail access to the public

CSRD's Role in Cutblock/road referrals

Operational Examples:

- Rural community ***** or road ***** will be impacted by the logging truck traffic, please coordinate with us the timing of hauling.
- Cutblock XX boundary is adjacent to a private lot line have you communicated your plans with the private land owner?
- The CSRD has a no burning policy within electoral X how will you address your waste on CP XX?

CSRD's Role in Cutblock/road referrals

Operational Examples:

- It is known that there is a bear den on CP XX and we would like it to be protected.
- Proposed Cutblocks and roads XX are within Electoral X where there is terrain stability issues, and we are concerned with this as the blocks show they are greater than 50% slope. How are you addressing this?

BCTS-newly approved FSP



Okanagan-Columbia Forest Stewardship Plan

This Forest Stewardship plan is applicable to BC Timber Sales planning, operations, licenses, and permits within Okanagan Shuswap and Selkirk Natural Resource Districts.

BC Timber Sales –Okanagan Columbia
2501-14th Avenue
Vernon BC
V1T 8Z1
Phone (250) 558-1700

<https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/areas/toc.htm>

FSP Term: 5 years (2018-2023)

Commencing: September 1st 2018

FSP ID: 771

Questions??