

English River Forest  
2015-2020 Independent Forest Audit  
Management Unit Action Plan

# English River Forest 2020 Independent Forest Audit

## Action Plan Submission Signature Page

### Prepared By:

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Date: signed off on March 11, 2021

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### Reviewed By:

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# English River Forest 2020 Independent Forest Audit

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### Submitted By:

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Ray Boudreau  
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### Approved By:

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Date: March 23, 2021

## **Introduction**

The 2020 English River Forest Independent Forest Audit (IFA) Report was accepted Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Integration Branch on December 21, 2020 for an IFA conducted by Arbex Forest Resource Consultants Ltd. for the period April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2020.

The 2020 Independent Forest Audit Process and Protocol (IFAPP) requires a Management Unit Action Plan be prepared in response to the audit findings.

A total of six findings were noted for the management unit. For each finding, this action plan provides a description of the actions required, the organization and position responsible, timelines for each of the action items, as well as the method of tracking progress for each action.

# Findings

## Finding #1:

The production process for the development of the Enhanced Forest Resource Inventory has systemic problems.

### Action Required:

1. MNRF Regional Planning Unit Supervisor will continue to advocate for the Forest Resource Inventory to be delivered on time and within technical specifications.

### Organization and Position Responsible:

1. MNRF - Regional Planning Unit Supervisor.

### Deadline Date:

1. n/a

### Method of Tracking Progress:

1. Email, meeting minutes of conversations with the Coordinator of the Forest Resource Inventory Unit.

## Finding #2:

Slash pile burn program objectives were not consistently met.

### Action Required:

1. Resolute FP Canada Inc. will direct renewal staff to identify areas of poor pile consumption, assess if pile/site conditions warrant another attempt at being burned, and if deemed viable add these areas into the upcoming SPBP.
2. Develop an application for field tablets which provide for greater ease of tracking slash piles in order to ensure that plan objectives are being met.
3. Regenerate slash piles where sufficient consumption occurred and in a cost efficient manner (i.e. piles that are in relatively close proximity to planned renewal activities).

### Organization and Position Responsible:

1. Resolute FP Canada Inc. Forestry Superintendent, Ontario
2. Resolute FP Canada Inc. Forestry Coordinator – West
3. Resolute FP Canada Inc. Renewal Forester

### Deadline Date:

1. July 15 2021, and Ongoing

2. 2021 and Ongoing.
3. 2021 and Ongoing.

**Method of Tracking Progress:**

1. Completion of tablet application
2. Summarize data from tablet application to assist renewal staff in developing future slash management (e.g. low complexity slash pile burn program).
3. Improvement in levels of productive landbase as reported in future FMP's.

**Finding #3:**

The operational standards for forestry aggregate pits identified in the 2019 English River Forest Management Plan were not consistently met.

FMP operational standards for forestry aggregate pits were not consistently met.

**Action Required:**

1. Both MNRF and Resolute FP Canada Inc to increase Forest operation inspections as a part of their compliance program.
2. Resolute FP Canada Inc. will review aggregate pit requirements with contractors.

**Organization and Position Responsible:**

1. MNRF IRM Technical Specialist, MNRF Management Forester and Resolute FP Canada Inc. – Area Superintendent.
2. Resolute FP Canada Inc. Area Superintendent, Operations Coordinator, and Operations Forester.

**Deadline Date:**

1. 2021 and ongoing.
2. 2021 and ongoing.

**Method of Tracking Progress:**

1. FOIP.
2. FOIP.

**Finding #4:**

Inconsistent silviculture planning, delivery and monitoring resulted in the variable efficacy of the mechanical site preparation and aerial herbicide treatments across sites and operating years.

**Action Required:**

1. Resolute FP Canada Inc. will work towards prescribing and utilizing different site preparation techniques and/or equipment.
2. Resolute FP Canada Inc. will direct renewal staff to identify and track chemical tending areas where levels of release were insufficient and determine if additional renewal measures are required.

**Organization and Position Responsible:**

1. Resolute FP Canada Inc. Forestry Superintendent, Ontario.
2. Resolute FP Canada Inc. Forestry Coordinator – West , and Resolute FP Canada Inc. Renewal Forester.

**Deadline Date:**

1. 2021, Ongoing.
2. 2021, Ongoing.

**Method of Tracking Progress:**

1. Silviculture records, Annual reports.
2. Silviculture records, Annual reports.

**Finding #5:**

District Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and the Resolute FP Forest Operation Information Program reports were not submitted in accordance with the timelines identified in the English River Forest Management Plan and the Forest Compliance Handbook.

**Action Required:**

1. MNRF and Resolute FP Canada Inc. will follow that the requirements for inspecting and reporting are followed, as required by the Forest Management Plan.
2. MNRF Dryden District to discuss Forest Compliance coordination.
3. Continue regular monthly meetings between MNRF and Industry (SFL/FRL) Compliance Inspectors, with a focus on any operational issues.
4. Resolute FP Canada Inc. will conduct a joint information session with all MNRF and Resolute FP Canada Inc. FOIP inspectors for the forest, to review reporting requirements.

**Organization and Position Responsible:**

1. MNRF - District Manager and Resolute FP Canada Inc. - Forestry Manager Ontario.
2. MNRF - District Manager.

3. MNRF – Management Forester, Resolute FP Canada Inc. –Operations Coordinator and Forestry Coordinator.
4. Resolute FP Canada Inc. Forestry Coordinator.

**Deadline Date:**

1. Fall of 2021.
2. Spring 2021.
3. 2021 and ongoing.
4. Spring 2021.

**Method of Tracking Progress:**

1. Current Forest Management Plan.
2. MNRF Appointment of Coordinator.
3. Meeting minutes.
4. Agenda / Minutes from spring meeting.

**Finding #6:**

In some instances, the District Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and Resolute FP compliance staff did not follow the documentation requirements of the operational issue process identified in the 10 Year Compliance Strategy and the 10 Year Compliance Plan.

**Action Required:**

1. MNRF compliance inspectors will ensure documentation requirements of the operational issue process identified in the 10 Year Compliance Strategy and the 10 Year Compliance Plan are followed.
2. Resolute FP Canada Inc. operations staff will review and follow the 2019 – 2029 English River FMP sections on compliance, in particular section 4.7.1.9 – Reporting and Operational Issue Management.

**Organization and Position Responsible:**

1. MNRF – Resource Management Supervisor.
2. Resolute FP Canada Inc. Woodlands Operations Manager, Area Superintendent, Operations Coordinator, Operations Forester.

**Deadline Date:**

1. November 2021 and ongoing.
2. July 2021 and ongoing.

**Method of Tracking Progress:**

1. FOIP, Annual Reports.
2. FOIP, Annual Reports