DOG RIVER-MATAWIN FOREST 2015 INDEPENDENT FOREST AUDIT MANAGEMENT UNIT ACTION PLAN

Status Report

Ontario

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Introduction

In June 2015, an Independent Forest Audit was conducted on the Dog River-Matawin Forest by Arbex Forest Resource Consultants Ltd. for the period April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2015. The final audit report was accepted by Forestry Futures Committee (FFC) on October 15, 2015. Although the action plan is due within 2 months of acceptance of the final audit report by the FFC, the SFL holder and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) Thunder Bay District did not receive the report from MNRF Integration branch until November 3, 2015.

This status report is required to be submitted by December 7, 2017. The status report includes the original approved actions for recommendations from the Management Unit Action Plan. The progress to date is listed below the actions required. Future tracking is shown for any actions not yet completed. This Status Report addresses recommendations under the headings of 2 of the 8 IFA Principles (Principals 4 and 8; recommendations #2,#4 and #5). Two other recommendations (Principles 3 and 6; recommendation #1 and #3) which were directed at corporate MNRF and the licence extension recommendation will be addressed in the separate 2015 Provincial Status Report.

Recommendations

Principle 4: Plan Assessment and Implementation

Recommendation #2:

Resolute FP should assess all area treated with aerial herbicide applications between 2011 and 2013 to ascertain if silviculture interventions are required to release crop trees and/or ensure that the SGRs are met.

Action(s) required:

1. Resolute Renewal Staff will reassess all the areas treated with aerial herbicide applications between 2011 and 2013, during the 2016 field season. Areas requiring a re-treatment will be scheduled in the 2017-2018 AWS and reported in the 2017-2018 Annual Report.

Progress to date:

1. Completed. Resolute reviewed the 8,251 hectares that were treated in the years 2011, 2012 and 2013. As a result, seven hundred and fourteen hectares were retreated in 2016 and one hundred and forty-five hectares were re-treated in 2017. The 2017 retreatments are reported in the 2016-2017 Annual Report.

Future tracking requirements:

None.

Principle 8: Contractual Obligations

Recommendation #4:

The MNRF District Manager must ensure that the Action Plan is prepared in accordance with the schedule specified in the Independent Forest Audit Process and Protocol

Action(s) required:

1. MNRF Thunder Bay District, Resolute FP Canada Inc., and MNRF Northwest Region will develop an Action Plan production and review schedule beginning with the Draft Final Audit Report to ensure the Action Plan is submitted prior to the deadline (within two months of acceptance of the final audit report by the FFC. While the final audit report was accepted by FFC on October 15, 2015, it was not sent to/received by the SFL holder and MNRF Thunder Bay District until November 3, 2015.

Progress to date:

1. Completed. The final audit report was accepted by Forestry Futures Committee on October 15, 2015 and the Action Plan was approved on December 7, 2015.

Recommendation #5:

Resolute FP and the MNRF District must retain the signed AWS approval page on file in their offices.

Action(s) required:

1. MNRF Thunder Bay District and Resolute FP shall work collaboratively to ensure the signed AWS Title, Certification and Approval Page is properly documented and retained on file at both District and Resolute FP offices as per requirements outlined in the FMPM and FIM. The original and an electronic copy of the Title, Certification and Approval Page will be filed at the District office with the approved AWS. District staff will also ensure a signed copy of Title, Certification and Approval Page is sent to the SFL holder electronically for their internal files upon MNRF approval of the AWS.

Progress to date:

 A signed copy of the 2015-2016, 2016-2017, and 2017-2018 AWS Title, Certification and Approval Page was sent to the SFL holder electronically and has been filed.

Future tracking requirements:

Continue to provide copies of signed AWS Title, Certification and Approval Pages once signed.

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