

Black Spruce Forest

2011-2017 Independent Forest Audit

Management Unit Action Plan

Black Spruce Forest 2017 Independent Forest Audit

Action Plan Submission Signature Page

Prepared By:

Beau Johnson, R.P.F.
Planning Superintendent
Resolute FP Canada Inc.
Date signed: February 9, 2018

Bertha Strickland, R.P.F.
Management Forester
Fort Frances MNRF District
Date signed: February 12, 2018

Neil Peterson, R.P.F.
Regional Operations Specialist
Northwest MNRF Region
Date signed: February 12, 2018

Reviewed By:

Tom Ratz, R.P.F.
Forestry Manager Ontario
Resolute FP Canada Inc.
Date signed: February 9, 2018

Submitted By:

Rik Aikman
District Manager
Thunder Bay MNRF District
Date signed: February 9, 2018

Black Spruce Forest 2017 Independent Forest Audit

Action Plan Submission Signature Page

Approved By:

Amanda Holmes
Regional Director
Northwest MNRF Region
Date signed: February 12, 2018

Introduction

The final 2017 Black Spruce Forest Independent Forest Audit (IFA) Report was accepted by the Forestry Futures Committee on November 30, 2017 for an IFA conducted by Arbex Forest Resource Consultants Ltd. for the period April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2017.

The 2017 Independent Forest Audit Process and Protocol (IFAPP) requires a Management Unit Action Plan be prepared in response to the audit recommendations.

A total of four 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:

FMP standards for residual tree retention were not consistently met.

Action Required:

1. All operators will be trained / refreshed, as to the requirements regarding residual wildlife tree prescriptions with-in the 2011 FMP.
2. The Forest Operations Inspection Program (FOIP) reports will be monitored, issues will be addressed as they arise and FOIP reports will be summarized for issues related to wildlife tree retention in the Annual Reports.

Organization and Position Responsible:

1. Resolute FP Canada – Operations Superintendent, BSF

Deadline Date:

1. Training to be held during Resolute's spring training session actual date TBD
2. On going

Method of Tracking Progress:

1. Training records
2. Compliance summary with the Annual Report

Finding #2:

The efficacy of the herbicide tending program was uneven.

Action Required:

1. Weedmaster is a new/alternate herbicide product used by Resolute in conduct of the 2017-2018 spray program as one measure in attempting to achieve a more effective herbicide program. Review the effectiveness of 2017-2018 herbicide program Weedmaster branded herbicide in 2018-2019.
2. If control was effective continue with use of Weedmaster (or similar formulation). In the event control is found to be ineffective Resolute will consult with the herbicide applicator contractor and/or others to find options/alternatives to increase effectiveness.
3. Areas where ineffective control was noted and silviculture objectives could still be achieved are included in the 2018-2019 herbicide spray program and will be reported in the 2018-2019 annual report.

Organization and Position Responsible:

1. Resolute FP Canada Inc. – Forest Renewal Superintendent
2. Resolute FP Canada Inc. – Forest Renewal Superintendent
3. Resolute FP Canada Inc. – Forest Renewal Superintendent

Deadline Date:

1. June 30, 2018
2. July 30, 2018
3. November 15, 2019 for the 2018-2019 Annual Report

Finding #3:

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

Action Required:

1. Both MNRF and Resolute Forest Product 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 and Resolute FP Canada Inc. – Area Superintendent
2. Resolute FP Canada Inc. – Production Manager, West Operations, Ontario Woodlands and Area Superintendent

Deadline Date:

1. March 2020
2. May, 2018

Method of Tracking Progress:

1. FOIP
2. FOIP

Finding #4:

The term of Sustainable Forest Licence # 542526 has not been extended.

Action Required:

1. The MNRF Regional Director and Resolute FP Canada Inc. - Forestry Manager Ontario will continue to support the review process (if required or necessary) associated with SFL license extension as per Subsection 26 (4) of the Crown Forest Sustainability Act.

Organization and Position Responsible:

1. MNRF Regional Director and Resolute FP Canada Inc. - Forestry Manager Ontario

Deadline Date:

1. March 31, 2020

Method of Tracking Progress:

1. Black Spruce SFL licence document Appendix G